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Student-faculty ratio set to drop for 05-06 year

By Andrea M. LaRocca
Associate Editor

With the addition of 28 newly hired professors to the Middlebury faculty, the student-faculty ratio is projected to drop from 11.3 - 1 to 10.6 -1 at the beginning of the 2005-2006 school year. The decrease is met with approval from the administration, as President Ronald D. Liebowitz said, "I am pleased that in the short term, even before the planning process has identified this as a major goal for the College, the student-faculty ratio is going down."

The student-faculty ratio at Middlebury has been a hot topic over the past few months since the current 11.3 - 1 ratio this year was a likely contributor to the College's lower-than-usual *US News & World Report America's Best Colleges* ranking and because in September, Liebowitz identified the student-faculty ratio as a major discussion topic in the College's strategic planning process. President Emeritus and Professor of History John McCardell Jr. also brought up the issue of student-faculty ratios in his Sept. 13, 2005 *New York Times* op-ed, "What Your College President Didn't Tell You."

"This issue has been a centerpiece for me and my administration since the first day of my presidency," said Liebowitz. "I see it as my utmost responsibility to ensure that what is most valuable about a Middlebury education — close student-faculty collaboration — is maintained and enhanced in the coming decade."

Because the faculty-student ratio is currently under discussion in the strategic planning process, Vice President for Academic Affairs Alison Byerly said that even with the current decrease, "any formal decision about changing the student-faculty ratio will follow the conclusion of the strategic planning process."

The current lower student-faculty ratio may also not address all the issues that have been raised pertaining to it over the past year. "Any lowering of the student-faculty ratio cannot hurt, and may well help, but magazines such as *US News* tend to change their methodology from year to year, so it's difficult to know what impact, if any, a change may have," said John Hanson, director of Admissions in response to whether the lower ratio will affect the ranking of Middlebury amongst its peer institutions. "Also, the student-faculty ratios at other institutions may also change in one direction or another, so our relative ranking among our peers may or

See New faculty, page 6

Sixiao Huo

Gearing up for the upcoming SGA elections, presidential and SCCOCC candidates gathered in McCullough Tuesday evening for a lively debate broadcast by WRMC 91.1 FM.

Grille plays host to debates

By Erin McCormick
Staff Writer

Middlebury students vying for the positions of Student Government Association (SGA) president as well as student co-chair of the Community Council (SCCOCC) debated school-wide policy and procedure in the Grille Tuesday night. In preparation for the upcoming election, candidates shared their individual platforms and addressed concerns from the community at large.

Three current SGA senators, Wonnacott Commons Senator Eli Berman '07.5, Junior Half-Year Senator Dan Saper '06 and Cook Commons Senator Elizabeth Schaumberg '06 are all contending for the position of SGA president, while Jon Sherr '08 and current SCCOCC J.S. Woodward '06 are both looking to lead Community Council for the 2005-2006 school year.

The evening debate began with broad topics addressed to all candidates from the moderator of the event, Inter-House Council Senator Mike Vilarello '05. Other questions, also posed for all candidates, were later submitted by audience members.

Student voice, involvement and apathy, as well as social life on campus were primary focuses of the debate. Other questions were also raised concerning how each candidate could affect the individual lives of students on campus, how each candidate's platform would come to fruition even if he or she is not elected and the characteristics distinguishing each candidate from a standard opponent.

See pages 4 and 5 for candidate profiles.

Each candidate spoke directly to their goals for their respective organization if elected. Berman focused his remarks on the power that the student body possesses. "I

See Tuesday, page 5

Hanging out

Ari Joseph

Working to enhance the College's environmentally-conscious image, students hung their clothes out to dry in an effort to promote energy conservation on National Hang-Out Day.

inside this issue...

POSSE PERFECTION ANNUAL RETREAT GARNERS PRAISE | 16

INBOX FULL | MEET YOUR SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR | 19

VILLALONGO'S ART MYTHS ON DISPLAY IN JOHNSON | 22

Feb registration elicits complaints

By Thomas C. Drescher
News Editor

An online petition calling for BannerWeb adjustments intended to eliminate alleged registration disadvantages to Febs has prompted the Student Educational Affairs Committee (SEAC) to resurrect the ever-contentious issue of Feb registration policy in an attempt to develop a workable solution that will satisfy all parties involved.

Emily Nelson '07.5, the document's author, met with Wonnacott Commons Dean Matt Longman to discuss reform efforts, and began her online petition, which had garnered over 160 names at the time of press. "When we came to Middlebury, we were told that Febs are not behind and are at no disadvantage. This has proven to not be the case in terms of registration, and this needs to change," the petition reads.

"I understand the argument that we have fewer credits than rising juniors, but we need to take the same classes before we go abroad," said Nelson. "We would like to be pushed up [to register with the class graduating in May 2007] or at least register between [sophomores and first-years]. They should just make a subcategory."

"I just spoke on a panel about being a Feb and how wonderful an experience it has been so far," explained petitioner Molli Freeman-Lynde '08.5. "I would hate to be proven wrong when it comes to registration."

Nelson expressed disappointment with the responsiveness of College administrators. "The school prides itself on student leadership and voice, but on this issue the only people who would listen to us were commons deans," she said.

Though the issue at hand is registration policy logistics, Nelson feels

See Febs, page 3

MIDDBRIEFS

BY CAROLINE S. STAUFFER

SGA bill expresses concern over College's MIIS consideration

At last Sunday night's meeting, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed a bill expressing concern about Middlebury College's possible acquisition of the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS).

The bill, authored by SGA President Andrew Jacobi '05 and presented on April 16, centered on financial concerns surrounding the institute.

"I'm not sure if students have really paid much attention to the potential acquisition of MIIS, and it isn't really the programs of MIIS that the SGA took issue with," Jacobi said. "It was the concern that acquiring MIIS would take funding away from initiatives that directly pertain to the undergraduate College."

The bill notes that President Ronald D. Liebowitz "has laid out very lofty and worthwhile goals of improving faculty compensation and benefits, hiring new faculty and increasing financial aid packages," but proposes the idea that "acquiring a graduate program that is burdened with heavy debts seems counter to President Liebowitz's goals."

While the bill recognizes that the College would not be required to purchase the institute, it considers the possibility that the College "would need to spend a significant amount of money improving the technology, management and language programs of MIIS."

The SGA worries that improving and maintaining the institute would require funds that could be spent on completing the commons system, hiring new faculty and making financial aid offerings more competitive.

The bill concludes, "The SGA recommends to President Liebowitz and the Trustees that they reject any proposal that requires Middlebury to spend money that otherwise would be spent on college resources."

The final vote was 12-3-1.

Students awarded summer internships in poverty studies

S. Welcker Taylor '06 and Chui Ying 'Rachel' Fong '07 will spend eight weeks this summer working with impoverished people and communities in the eastern and southeastern United States. They are two of 50 interns selected by Washington and Lee University to receive a Shepherd Poverty Alliance internship.

Taylor will intern for the department of public advocacy in London, Ky., and Fong is scheduled for placement with Cabin Creek Health Center in Dawes, W.Va.

While still in high school, Fong joined several organized service trips to remote areas of Guangdong, China, and war-torn Sri Lanka. During two vacation breaks while at Middlebury, she traveled to Juarez, Mexico on missionary trips organized by the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship.

Taylor, a history major who chose law as the focus for his internship, also has a long-standing record of public service. In the summer of 2003, he helped create the Blueprint to End Chronic Homelessness Program while interning for the city in his hometown of Chattanooga, Tenn., and in the fall of 2004, he co-founded the Middlebury College Civil Liberties Union, which, according to Taylor, is the first campus chapter of the ACLU to be started in the state.

CORRECTIONS

An article in last week's issue of *The Middlebury Campus* entitled "KDR rallies to fill beds" inaccurately paraphrased a quotation from Assistant Dean of Student Affairs Karen Guttentag. The sentence should have read: "Guttentag added that she did *not* see KDR's particular housing issue as a reflection of 'system-wide concerns.'" *The Campus* regrets this error.

The Campus would like to clarify that Two Brothers' Tavern is in no way involved in the movement to lower Vermont's drinking age.

College prepares for Wyclef

By Alexxa Gotthardt
Staff Writer

Best-selling Hip-hop performer Wyclef Jean will headline the Middlebury College Activity Board's (MCAB) annual spring concert this Saturday, April 30. Wyclef, rapper and sometime guitarist boasting multi-platinum hits with both the Fugees and as a solo-artist, is one of the most high-profile acts ever brought to the College.

Every year, MCAB must decide on an act for the spring concert. According to J. Brito '06, concert chair for MCAB, MCAB's "goal is to select an act that will be well-received by the college community while varying the genre as often as possible." Wyclef Jean, this year's choice, stays true to MCAB's credo. Not only do Wyclef's Hip-hop beats differ greatly from the jazz and bluegrass style of last year's spring act, Bela Fleck, but his position as one of this decade's most popular rap-artists promises near-universal appeal.

Wyclef was selected after a long process that involved two campus-wide surveys. Through the surveys, MCAB hoped to find an act that would appeal to as many students as possible. "We wanted to get an idea of what genre people would like," said Meredith Kernan '05, president of MCAB. "Although people's tastes ran the gamut from world music to electronica, many of the respondents to the survey expressed a preference for Hip-hop."

After reviewing the results of the survey, MCAB's concert committee got together to try to decide on an act. Many components other than preference, however, also go into the selection of an artist. Budget and price of an act coalesce to create one of the biggest deciding factors. "MCAB concerts are the most expensive event we put on," said Kernan. "This is the reason why we only bring one big show to campus per year."

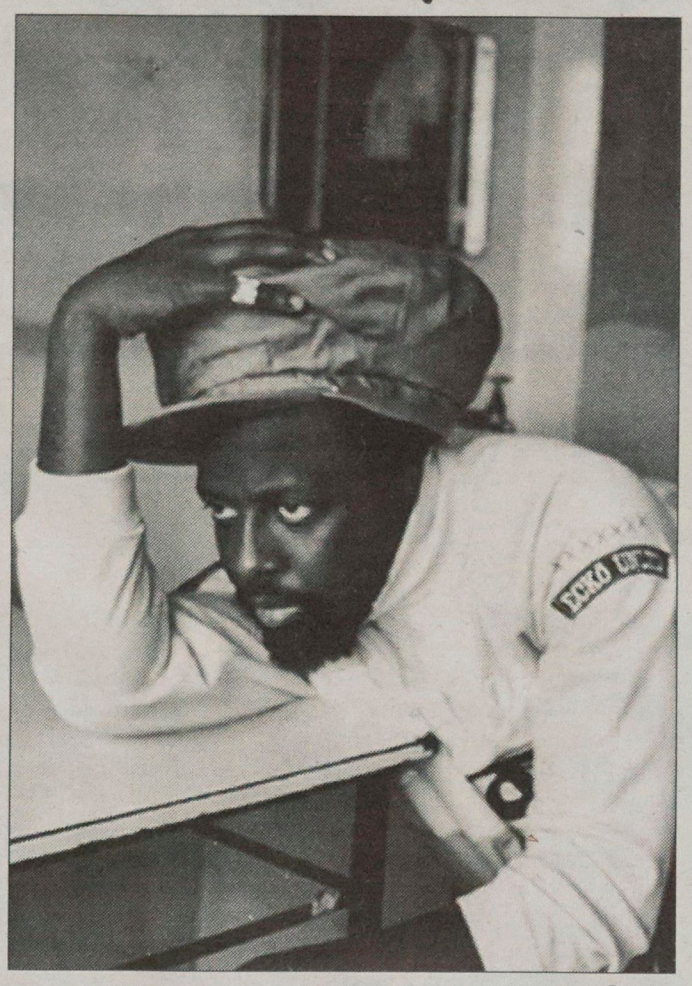
Although one of the most high-profile artists ever brought to campus, according to Kernan, Wyclef's price is comparable to past acts and worked with MCAB's budget. Kernan would not disclose the exact price of the concert. "Traditionally we have not shared this sort of information with the campus," said Kernan. "There is no specific policy; it has just always been something we don't discuss with people."

An article in *The Williams Record* regarding Wyclef's April 28 concert on William's campus, however, states that, "Wyclef will cost $43,000, plus production, agent and hospitality expenses that could total more than $16,000."

Bids from other schools and venues, artist's schedules, athletic schedules and production needs must also all be considered. "The concert selection process depends on so many factors outside of our control," said Kernan, "that it is a wonder that we can put on such great shows year after year."

Wyclef's genre, budget and schedule all happened to fit comfortably into MCAB's criterion. "We tossed around some names other than Wyclef," said Kernan, "but we ended up getting lucky in that schools which were considering booking him for the same date as us decided to go with another show unexpectedly."

Tickets for the concert have been on sale since Monday in Ross and Atwater for a student price of $15. The general public can also buy tickets for a price of $25 through the Middlebury box office. According to ticket sales, Wyclef's appeal seems to be paying off. "On-campus sales are going very well," said Kernan, "and this year we have sold more tickets than ever to off-campus buyers."



Courtesy

Wyclef Jean will appear on stage at Kenyon on Saturday night.

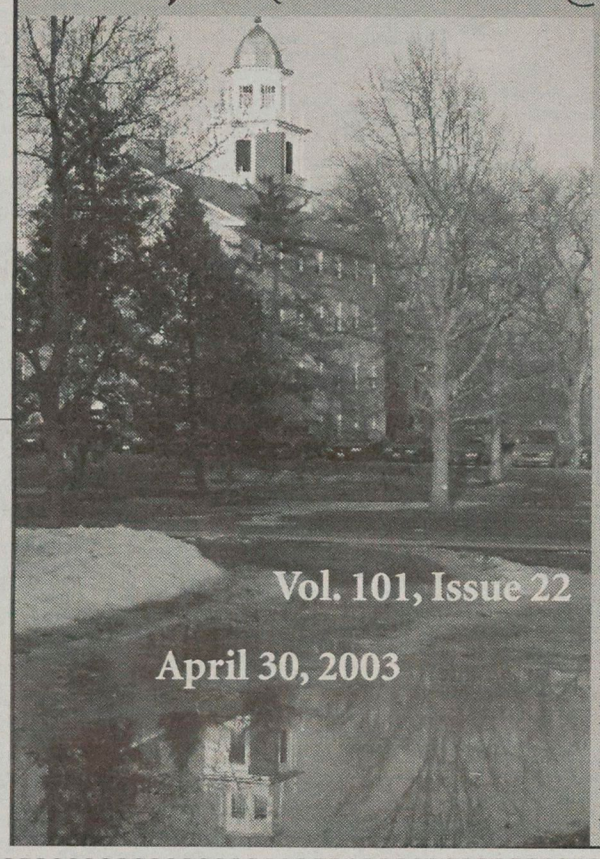
Brito reiterated the sentiment, "I am psyched about the show, MCAB is psyched about the show and the way ticket sales are going it seems like the college is pretty psyched as well."

Wyclef was born in Haiti in 1972 and nine years later immigrated with his preacher father and mother to Brooklyn, N.Y. Shortly after, he moved to New Jersey where he took up guitar and began studying jazz in school. This fascination with music soon led to a career in the industry, and in 1996, Wyclef exploded into the Hip-hop world as the lead rapper of the Fugees.

Hit singles such as "Fu-Gee-La" and "Killing Me Softly" topped the charts, stimulating the sale of over six-million copies of the record "The Score." Wyclef also released two very successful solo albums boasting many well-known singles such as Grammy-nominated "Gone Till November" and "Perfect Gentleman." His original style, a mélange of Hip-hop, reggae and urban rap, attracted the attention of many people throughout the music world. This led to Wyclef's collaboration with other artists as a producer, songwriter and remixer.

The concert will be held in Kenyon Arena. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the concert starts at 9 p.m. Wyclef is expected to be on-stage for one and a half to two hours.

This Week in Middlebury History



Rodriguez wins with unique platform

Sam Rodriguez '04 clinched the Student Government Association (SGA) presidency in a tight election last week, while Erin Sullivan '04.5 was elected Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC). The campus learned of the election results through an e-mail sent on Friday afternoon. This election for the 2003-04 academic year was the tightest in years, with no majority winner — Rodriguez won 39 percent of the votes for the SGA presidency, defeating Megan McElroy '04 by only 63 votes and Andrew Feinberg '04 by 216. With no previous experience in student government, Rodriguez was considered the "outsider" in the election, running against candidates who had extensive SGA backgrounds. "I was definitely fighting an uphill battle all along," said Rodriguez. "I was clearly the underdog as the outsider." Dean of Student Affairs and Co-chair of Community Council Ann Hanson said, "I think Sam will bring new and interesting ideas to his role as president. Erin and Sam are both quality people, and I am sure that they will work well together."

Over the summer Rodriguez and his chief of staff will discuss other priorities including the health food cafeteria, free and anonymous HIV/STD tests and network printers in every dorm so that students will not have to rush to Voter Hall for last minute printing.

*** The above text was modified, using original language from its 2003 publication. ***

Week of visibility a success

By Katie Flagg
News Editor

Brandishing pink-frosted cookies and rainbow ribbons, the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance (MOQA) kicked off a week of activities promoting visibility for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered persons on campus last week. Visibility Week — co-sponsored by the Department of Women and Genders Studies, Chellis House, Institutional Diversity and Wonnacott Commons, along with MOQA — continued a tradition of recognizing and celebrating alternative lifestyles on campus in April.

"Visibility in general is really important for any diversity issue," said Dean of Institutional Diversity Roman Graf. Furthermore, according to Graf, achieving visibility can be difficult on an individual level. "You feel uncomfortable, threatened," he said. "It's a lot more challenging to do it on your own."

Recognizing the power of numbers and institutional backing, MOQA spearheaded the organization of the week, shaping the week around formative goals for increasing both visibility and support on campus.

"Visibility Week isn't about saying, 'We are here, we are queer, get used to it,'" said Marshall Traverse, Commons Residential Advisor (CRA) for Wonnacott Commons. "The week was designed by MOQA and its allies to educate all of the Middlebury community and to strengthen its already impressive base of supporters."

Volunteers kicked off Visibility Week on April 11 by distributing cookies and gay-pride ribbons in the Ross and Atwater dining halls. For the most part, the experience was positive.

"Most students are always very nice when it comes to the cookies, ribbons and schedules tables," said MOQA Treasurer Sean Ramsdell '05, "though some are still very 'no-thank-you,' to put it politely. It hurts sometimes to still see people who either ignore you, come up with lame yet entertaining excuses, or worse, look at you, hear you and then walk past you."

Despite the occasional rebuff, however, MOQA distributed over 200 cookies and several hundred ribbons and schedules outlining the week's event.

On Wednesday, student participants across campus participated in the National Day of Silence. "The purpose of the day is to raise awareness of the voices we don't hear every day of those individuals who are silenced due to lack of legal protection, homophobia, fear or thousands of other reasons," said MOQA Co-Convener Katie Harrold '06. Participants wore black shirts to signal their contribution and supporters were encouraged to wear white.

According to Graf, the Day of Silence activities sparked interesting debates in the

See Visibility, page 18

Febs call for registration reform

Continued from page 1

it could have important implications for the larger "Feb-Reg" dialogues that have taken place over the course of this academic year. "It's kind of odd that in every aspect we're considered 'Regs' except for registration," she said. "It's funny that on one hand they're making an issue of the 'Feb-Reg' dialogues, but at the same time not addressing this issue."

According to an e-mail sent by Dean of the Faculty Susan Campbell to all sophomore Febs, it would be impossible to make last-minute changes to the current registration process, but future alterations are in the works. SEAC Director Scott Buckley '06.5 reiterated this assertion, noting that the complexity of the issue does not permit a hasty change. "We don't want to rush a decision," Buckley explained. "We need time to evaluate all positions and thoughtfully process all the issues surrounding Feb registration."

Buckley cited one possible system overhaul based on "inter-day staggering." According to Campbell's e-mail, such a concept would break the current groups into smaller categories with staggered registration times throughout the day. This would allow students with three regular terms of credit to register later in the day, after students a semester ahead of them. However, Campbell cautioned that while such a change would help Febs during spring registration for fall classes, it would be disadvantageous for those same students during fall registration for spring classes.

Currently, Febs are permitted to register with Regs ahead of them in fall, but must register with Regs one semester behind in the spring. "The suggested solution only benefits [Feb students] in the spring, while it puts them at a disadvantage in the fall, compared to our current system," explained Campbell in her e-mail. "When the current registration system was designed, we were aware of this pattern and felt that the fall and spring circumstances offset one another."

As an additional advantage, senior Febs currently have priority when registering for their final fall semester.

Buckley pointed out that while many Febs are currently frustrated with what they perceive to be flaws in the system, simply allowing these students to register with their September-matriculating classmates each semester would unfairly disadvantage Regs. As an example, Buckley explained that Regs attempting to fulfill major or distribution requirements with courses only offered in the fall would be competing with Febs who have an additional semester to take the course.

Both Campbell and Buckley acknowledged the complexity inherent in dealing with Feb registration policy, but expressed a desire to develop a universal remedy.

"Several campus offices will be meeting over the next few months to discuss discrepancies in communications regarding Feb class status for various campus processes" Campbell's e-mail read. "Any changes we make to the registration process as it relates to Febs will need to be part of that larger discussion. Moreover...any changes we might make to the system would influence large numbers of students, both Febs and Regs, and we would need to consult with a broad spectrum of students from both groups before deciding that a change was both fair and desirable."

— Additional reporting by Taylor Johnston

Room draw ruckus

Julia Randall

Competing for prime real estate on campus, students gathered Tuesday in Kenyon Arena for the Small Block Draw. Room draw will conclude this evening with the Open Draw. Students unsuccessful in this week's draw will proceed to Summer Draw.

Overseas Briefing

By Dave Barker

MADRID — I have always dreaded Sundays at Middlebury. The day brings a late wake-up and a hearty brunch, but shortly after a final refill at the Ross pastry counter, the inevitable segue from dining hall to library looms. Underlining and typing carry me until dinner and then resume until sleep.

In Madrid, however, former home of the grisly Inquisition trials and capitol of a country that claims to have a third of the world's 85,000 Opus Dei members (think *The Da Vinci Code*), religion holds strong on the seventh day of the week. Sunday is truly, a day of rest. For me, rest from work leaves little respite from exploration of the city. My Sabbath starts early when the Rastro flea market opens in La Latina. Here I can procure everything from plaid slippers to French horns. Once packed with people, the Rastro should be avoided like a lot of the junk that fills the stalls. The tranquility of the Buen Retiro Park on the other side of Central Madrid lies just a 1 Euro 20 Metro ride away. However, with most stores closed on Sunday, it is a quick walk through less congested streets.

Little has bloomed in Retiro owing to a long winter, but I enjoy a nice bask by the side of a man-made lake. Rowboats are rented for a few Euros and a rather Bohemian contingent plays the drums nearby. Picnics in the grass almost always include a cheaper-than-water box of red wine. Upon exiting Retiro, I pass a most secular symbol, a statue of Lucifer. Thought to be the only statue of the devil in the world, Lucifer fights a snake in the statue much like I struggle to comprehend its presence in Madrid.

I see similar contrasts at the Prado Museum, free on Sundays. The canvases of the Spanish masters are displayed on the second floor. In the Velázquez wing, the most sober portraits of Hapsburg Kings hang just steps away from a depiction of the God of Wine, Bacchus, surrounded by peasants indulging in all sorts of libations. The grinning peasant who stares at the observer must be the happiest figure in the whole museum.

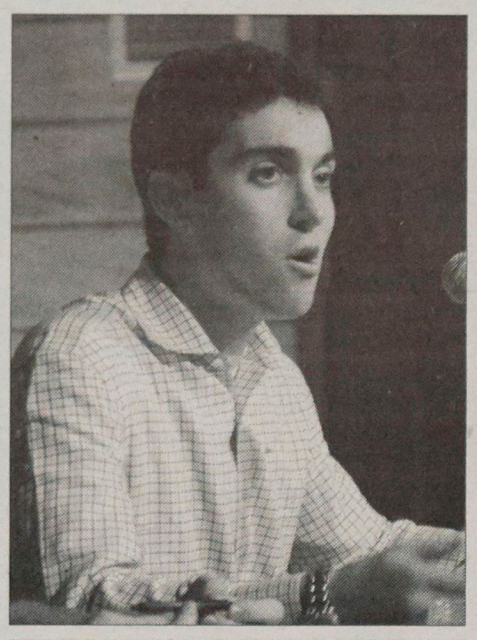
Overwhelmed and needing a cure for "aesthetisitis," the ailment triggered by long visits to art museums, I stroll back to the central city stopping for a gelato or an espresso shot that the Spaniards call coffee.

Being April, the option of a bullfight intrigues, but the slow death of six animals will have to wait for the San Isidro Festival in May. A crowded Flamenco venue not found in Foder's gets rolling around 10:30 p.m. as does free jazz at a café near my apartment. The library, at least for a few more months, never felt so far away.

Courtesy

SGA election preview 2005:

— Interviews by Rachel Greenhaus



CANDIDATE: Dan Saper
CLASS OF: 2006
HOMETOWN: Palo Alto, Cali.
MAJOR: Economics
EXPERIENCE: SGA Junior half-year senator

ELECTION 2005 SGA PRESIDENT

What are the hot-button issues in your campaign?

I have a lot of issues that are important to me, but the biggest ones are moving universal wireless internet up on the administration's agenda, diminishing the role of the commons in housing selection in order to encourage and not penalize inter-campus friendships and giving athletes physical education credit for each season that they play a sport.

Also, I'd like to see the return of MiddCards and installing washers and dryers in Painter or Starr. I'd also like to see more art displayed throughout campus buildings, which was brought up by J.S. Woodward as part of his SCCOCC platform, which is one I fully endorse.

Bringing more outside bands and speakers to campus is also important to me. In general, I would like to see increased interaction links between campus groups, such as the SGA and MCAB, College Democrats and College Republicans, and so on. Such collaboration is a great way both to bridge organizational gaps and to focus finances and energy on a few larger, likeminded goals.

What would you say the keyword for your campaign is? Do you have a slogan?

One of my posters says "Dan Saper is Joe Midd" and there's one that says "He is left wing, he is right wing, Dan Saper is your wingman," but that's really just a casual implication of my overall campaign, which, if I had to give it a slogan, would probably be "Keep Middlebury Connected."

What personality traits do you have that would make you a good president?

I'm creative. I'm determined to get things done. I'd also say I'm good at dealing with diverse groups and I realize that the position of SGA president entails dealing with a wide variety of individuals and organizations and it's important to be flexible and receptive to different ideas.

I'd also say I'm outgoing, which is good for branching out into different social networks, and I enjoy hearing what other students have to say about how Middlebury can be improved.

How could the SGA be improved?

If I had to pick something, I'd say that too often bills are over-analyzed and over-debated. When this happens, people tend to lose focus and too few ideas make it all the way through. Efficiency is something the SGA can improve upon.

Ideally, what should the SGA's role be at Middlebury College?

The SGA is the most important conduit between the administration and the student body. Without the SGA, I think the administration would have a very difficult time recognizing the wants and needs of the students, and the students would have a difficult time getting their thoughts and opinions heard by administrators. This sense of connectedness is something that can always be better.

How do you plan on making/keeping the student body involved in the student government process?

I think a weekly e-mail recap of a few highlights from SGA meetings, debates and discussions will help keep people abreast of its initiatives. I also think surveys are a great way to find out what students are really thinking and feeling. We need to be asking opinions both before and after legislation is considered.

What are your hot-button issues?

My campaign is based on the idea that there are two types of student government. The first type promotes better student life and positive attitudes. The second is just another club which doesn't take action. I thoroughly embrace the first type of student government. SGA should actively cause positive change. Middlebury is full of bright, amazing, intelligent people. This easily translates into power — power to make our campus community a better place.

Our power can be seen with the recent "Proctor Push." With my bill "Fighting for the Commons System," I included the entire student body, pursuing something that mattered to us. The result was that the administration listened and reopened Proctor on Sundays.

As for specific issues, I'll fight for a wireless network. I'll continue to fight for more laundry machines (I introduced the idea to the Senate earlier this year and have been pushing it forward since October). I'll fight for more social/activity space, an endowed fund for environmental grants and raising the profile of the organic garden.

What would you say the keyword for your campaign is? Do you have a slogan?

What is your campaign strategy?

My slogan is "Amplifying Student Voice." My message — I pledge, as president, that each and every student voice will be heard in making each and every decision. I've been meeting with clubs, talking to anyone who'll listen and listening to anyone who'll talk. I'm looking forward to going door-to-door next week and meeting as many people as possible.

ELECTION 2005 SGA PRESIDENT

What personality traits do you have that would make you a good president? I'm sincere, and I'm a listener. I respect people but I'm not afraid to disagree with them. Most importantly, I have integrity. I'm not a politician. I'm running for president because I know that I can make Middlebury better, and I can include as many voices as possible. It's imperative that people know that my campaign is about issues but, even more importantly, it's about how issues are confronted. I can't guarantee a wireless network next year — no candidate can. What I can guarantee is that the voice of the student body and student government will be heard on that issue and others as never before.

How could the SGA be improved?

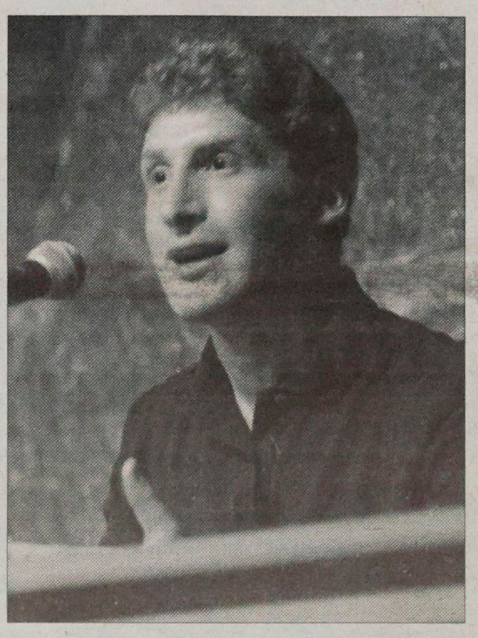
I would undoubtedly classify my SGA experience as positive. But I think there's a lot more that can and should be done. Not enough people are involved, both in the SGA and with SGA.

Ideally, what should the SGA's role be at Middlebury College?

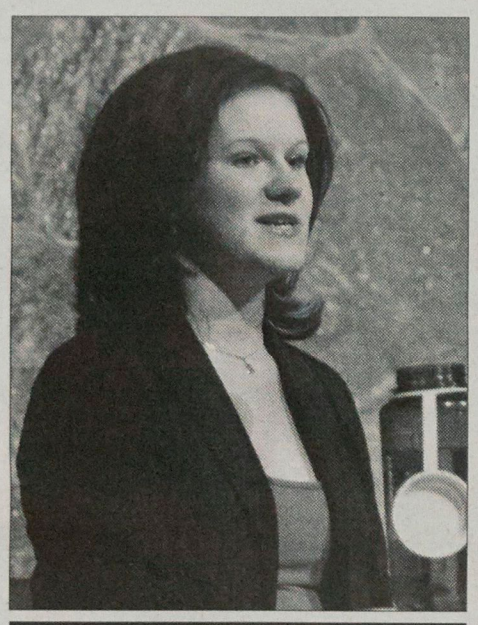
The SGA has the ability to take raw student power and harness it into making our college life better. Ideally, students, together with the administration should be the decision makers and implementers. Of course, the administration is doing a great job — life here at Midd is good. But it could be better, and it'll only get better when everyone gets involved.

How do you plan on making/keeping the student body involved in the student government process?

I'm the right person for the job because I'm the kind of person who reaches out to people. I plan on going to club meetings throughout the year. I'll have SGA open hours in which students can see me or call me and voice their concerns. And if students won't come to us, then we'll gladly go to them. I'll go dorm-to-dorm, dining hall-to-dining hall, making the SGA's presence known.



CANDIDATE: Eli Berman
CLASS OF: 2007.5
HOMETOWN: Chevy Chase, Md.
MAJOR: Undecided
EXPERIENCE: Two-time Wonnacott Commons SGA Senator, Commons and Student Life Taskforce, Senior Prefect in high school.



CANDIDATE: Elizabeth Schaumberg
CLASS OF: 2006
HOMETOWN: Denver, Colo.
MAJOR: Joint Psychology / Sociology
EXPERIENCE: Current Cook Commons senator, member of the Community Council, former Cook Commons Tri-Chair

What are your hot-button issues? What about your campaign would excite the student body?

My primary issue is the commons system and making the long-term plan work better for students while they're here. If the SGA and commons work together, more student ideas and initiatives will be available and SGA can better represent the full range of student opinion on issues. One of my other issues is bringing back the MiddCard or something like it. I thought it was one of the great selling points of the College and when it ended, it hurt many students who needed the system for things like books and supplies.

I'd like to see us continue the break shuttles as well as adding trips to Burlington on the weekends. I also think there should be more venues for presentation of student and faculty work. I'd like to enhance the environmental programs on campus to promote the school's already outstanding "green" identity. SGA should also focus on some more academic issues like longer library hours.

What would you say the keyword for your campaign is? Do you have a slogan? What is your campaign strategy?

A lot of it could be boiled down to "making the commons system work for you." My campaign strategy includes the usual posters as well as meeting with student groups. I'm trying to talk to as many people as possible.

What personality traits do you have that would make you a good president?

First and foremost I have a lot of experience. I have a unique combination of experience with student organizations, SGA and the commons system. Increasing the communication and collaboration between these groups is important for strong representation and positive student life. I think I have a combination of both functional changes that can be made in student government *and* a detailed list of agenda items and things I specifically want to work on. I have a lot of perseverance, so I would make a good leader, advocating for the student body to the administration.

ELECTION 2005 SGA PRESIDENT

How could the SGA be improved?

SGA representation of the full diversity of student opinion could be improved to a great degree.

Ideally, what should the SGA's role be at Middlebury College?

To figure out the issues that students care about, to address those issues and to ensure students a voice in the solutions before making recommendations to the administration.

Also, a lot more initiatives should come out of the student body. For instance, we heard from students that they would like the library open later and we pushed for it to be open 24 hours during exams.

How do you plan on making/keeping the student body involved in the student government process?

I would make sure that I'm going to the student organizations and to the commons to hear their opinions. I would also make sure that the senators are going to their constituents to talk to them through e-mail, polls or person-to-person. I think it would also be good to have some sort of board in dining halls and other central locations on campus to let people know what the SGA is addressing each week to give people an opportunity to make their opinions known, to keep them educated and to encourage them to voice their opinions.

Voting to start April 25, 26

First-year Sherr takes on incumbent Woodward in SCCOCC race

— Interviews by Abigail Mitchell

How would you define the role of Student Co-Chair of Community Council and why does the position appeal to you?

SCCOCC is functionally the Vice-President of the SGA. The Community Council is comprised of students, faculty, administration and staff. I really like the idea of Community Council because it includes a range of viewpoints and allows for a process of group decision-making. There is a clear atmosphere of cooperation. Furthermore, the group is inclusive of all facets of people that make up the Middlebury campus. This is important because no decision affects only one subset of people.

What issues did you pursue during your prior term as SCCOCC and what do you feel you were able to accomplish?

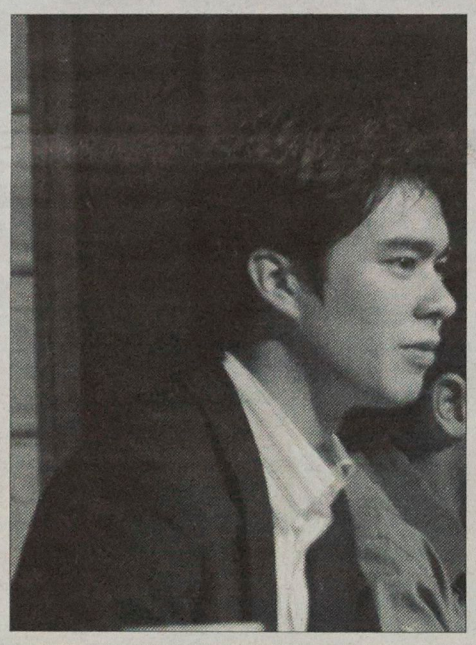
I believe we were successful in improving the school's alcohol policy. We liberalized it to the extent that local laws allow with the assumption that students of age have the intelligence and experience to make wise decisions surrounding the consumption of alcohol. We worked to the end that students of age not be penalized for drinking on campus. I feel like we accomplished our goals of policy reform and made the campus a safer environment. Now there is less focus on off-campus parties and, consequently, less threat of drunk driving.

What are the issues you will focus on if elected for another term?

The Strategic Planning Initiative — I am concerned by the trend toward erosion of the group decision-making process. I feel especially that student involvement/representation is deteriorating. One example can be seen in the Strategic Planning Initiative, which has over 100 members (divided into 11 task forces), only 13 of which are students. I would have liked to see more students represented in these task forces, some of which have not a single student. Another example can be seen in the debate over the acquisition of the Monterey Institute of International Studies. As far as I can tell, there is no official venue for student input in the process.

ELECTION 2005 SCCOCC

The Carbon Reduction Initiative — This was endorsed by the Community Counsel a couple of years ago and was more recently endorsed this past May by the Trustees. This initiative affirms that Middlebury will strive to reduce its carbon emissions. I feel that we have a large body of research but there seems to be a lack of implementation. The only idea that is currently being discussed is the acquisition of a biomass boiler. We need to move to implementation of ideas.



CANDIDATE: JS Woodward
CLASS OF: 2006
HOMETOWN: Anchorage, Alaska
MAJOR: Joint Environmental Studies and Biology

Are there any issues that will carry over from your last term?

I would like to see an increase in public art on campus. Especially, art created by students and faculty on display for all members of the community. I feel that this is an important issue that has been largely put on hold because of the intensity of the planning process.

In what areas do you think the school needs improvement?

There needs to be improved communication between the governing bodies and the rest of the community. Right now the SGA and the Community Council have no effective way of transferring important information. Overall, I feel that the Strategic Planning Initiative, which involved the community, was a good approach to the process, but I feel that there should have been more student representation within it. Overall, I would like to see an increase in the student voice in the governance process. In the future, more student representation, voice and involvement.

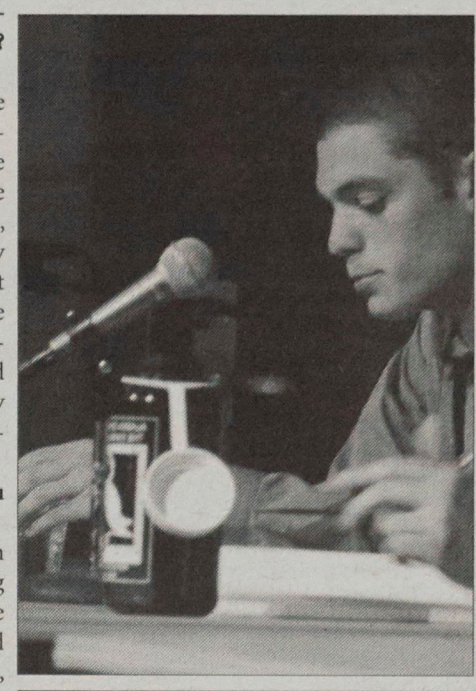
As it is, I feel that the governing process at the College should be a model for other schools. Because of its small size, small changes can have large ramifications. At Middlebury, the student voice has great potential to bring about change.

In your words, what is the role of the SCCOCC? Why is it important to the school? What about the position appeals to you?

The Student Co-Chair serves as a bridge between students and the administration, faculty and staff. The voice of the SCCOCC and the Community Council ensures that students are fairly represented, that their interests are heard, and that the College community is enriched by new student initiatives that address their lives at Midd. It is a job of responsibility and importance that I have taken to heart. I want to make a difference here before I leave for the real world, and would like the opportunity to work hard every day to ensure that campus life improves for students today and in the future.

Since you have been at Middlebury, do you think the SCCOCC has been successful?

I do not feel that the SCCOCC has been very effective in tackling the major issues facing students and the Community Council. While the current co-chair is an effective administrator and is well acquainted with the Community Council, I feel that he does not represent student interests. It seems that our SCCOCC supports the interests of the administration over the interests of the students he is supposed to represent. Many initiatives taken by the school (one only has to remember the need for a key at every entrance to most buildings) do not help build the college community that I wanted to live in when I decided to attend Midd. I think that student voice and representation should hold a higher priority and that student concerns should be taken into greater account than they are presently; this is a clear difference between myself and my opponent.



CANDIDATE: Jon Sherr
CLASS OF: 2008
HOMETOWN: Memphis, Tenn.
MAJOR: Undecided

What issues are on your agenda if elected? Given these issues, what practical proposals do you have? How do propose to implement your ideas?

If elected, I plan to first bring a plan before the Community Council to increase SGA awareness across campus through an easily accessible Web site, bi-monthly e-mails to students concerning important SGA and Community Council initiatives and recommendations to President Liebowitz.

I would also like to address issues with the current housing system, especially in regard to campus houses. My plan would recommend acquiring houses around campus for student use and converting buildings used for office space, such as Adirondack House, into student housing.

ELECTION 2005 SCCOCC

In addition, I would like to provide more amenities for students, including implementing wireless in more buildings around campus, more support for clubs and organization, such as Middlebury Mountain Club, to provide for its members and the entire student body, continuing Spring Break trips for athletic teams, keeping Proctor dining hall open and converting wall sections in major student buildings, like John McCardell Bicentennial Hall, into areas for student artists and others to display their artwork.

While some goals, such as housing, are long-term and need much debate, other initiatives, such as art in major student centers, an information database of SGA and Community Council initiatives and e-mails to students can be implemented at a low cost. The benefits from these ideas far outweigh the minimal costs required for their implementation.

In what areas do you feel this school needs improvement?

My platform attempts to address areas of the College community that need improvement, such as housing and the information gap between the SGA and students. I also feel that smaller issues, such as implementing wireless and placing art throughout the campus, though not necessary, would still enrich the college community.

Tuesday debate fosters discussion, reflection

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

look around this room and see power," he said. "I see bright, smart, intelligent people — this translates into power. Our student government has the potential to harness and direct this power to make things better."

Berman also said he would "fight for everything we [as students] deserve," like wireless internet, more laundry machines in better locations and the right of students to be heard by the administration.

He said since students are not largely attracted to SGA, it is the responsibility of the president to go "door by door and cafeteria by cafeteria" in order to listen to student concerns and feelings in an attempt to implement change.

Saper focused his comments on the collaboration of different groups on campus as well as between students and the administration. "People get things done by working together," he said. "We need to collaborate, branch out and bridge gaps between groups." Saper also promised to establish weekly office hours in order to work with the leaders of student organizations more individually.

Schaumberg focused her remarks on working with the commons system, social houses and student organizations to put more student initiatives into practice. "Student orgs represent a significant portion of the student body," she said. "SGA should collaborate more with them in order to voice more student opinions."

She also strongly advocates the return of the MiddCard system in order to help students more easily and conveniently purchase books and supplies.

She also, if elected, hopes to implement a campus bulletin board and a message board system to increase dialogue between the SGA and the study body.

In the SCCOCC race, incumbent Woodward, whose platform largely concerns environmental issues on campus, focused on his experience in working with students, administration and faculty in past years to foster change within the community. If reelected, Woodward promised that students will "see change as you did this year." He pointed to the "What's Going On?" posters around campus as an example of last year's fulfilled campaign promises.

Woodward said he has viable ideas for next year. He further commented that he knows how much time and effort is required to work with the Community Council. "I will commit so that the student voice doesn't drown in complacency," he told the students and community members gathered at the Grille.

Sherr, who has no experience with the SGA, wants to "come from the outside and try to bring a new voice" to the institution. "Happy to label [himself] as an idealist," he hopes to let the administration know that the student body is strong and has a voice.

He believes that "everyone can lead if given a chance. Too often we see the same people leading. You can bring new outlooks to old programs and continue to make improvements to make student action better."

Sherr's platform is focused on communication and the student voice. If elected, he wants to make all SGA and Community Council minutes, bills and proposals available online, so students are able to "get involved in the issues that really interest them. We need some open database that doesn't take a lot of effort to look into to make sure apathy isn't a problem on campus," he added.

He also said he will talk with any student, whether on the phone, through e-mail, over coffee or even at a party in order to learn about student opinion on campus. "If you want to talk," said Sherr, "I'll listen."

Elections for SGA president and SCCOCC will be conducted online on April 25 and 26.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY KATIE FLAGG

Professors join crusade against rising book prices

Cash-strapped students are not the only ones appalled by startling textbook bills these days. According to the California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG), 700 mathematics and physics professors from 150 colleges and universities across the country are rallying to reduce the cost of textbooks for college students, calling on Thompson Learning to lead the way in making education more affordable for students.

These professors, as a result of the Affordable Textbook Campaign launched last year by Public Interest Research Groups including CALPIRG, have drafted and signed two letters to the CEO of the textbook publisher. These letters state that the company's policies unfairly increase the price of textbooks for American students, exacerbating the rising cost of higher education in America.

Specifically, the professors have asked the company to decrease the frequency of its updates for two physics and calculus textbooks. "While textbook editions must be updated periodically to reflect new teaching methods and so forth, we do not believe that the content of [these] particular update[s] justified an entirely new edition," the letters stated, adding that unnecessary new editions create additional costs for students and institutions.

The letters also asked the Thompson Learning textbook giant to decrease the price disparity between the price of books in the United States and abroad.

"My members and I have met with PIRG representatives for more than 18 months to create an open discussion and share data," said AAP President Patricia Schroeder in a recent press release. "Unfortunately, PIRG continues to attempt to influence the media and public by ignoring valid research and information from independent, third-party sources."

Currently, the AAP and CALPIRG are deadlocked in discussions of the issue, though coordinators for the Affordable Textbook Campaign hope for a speedy breaking of the stalemate.

—U-Wire

National student database considered

A study recently completed by the National Center for Education Statistics examining the possibility of creating a database of every college and university student in the United States was considered last week by the U.S. Education Department.

While there is no legislative proposal associated with the study, the study broaches the feasibility of nationally tracking students in various aspects of their collegiate careers. According to the study, 39 states already have some form of these unit record systems. The future database would include basic student information such as name, Social Security number and date of birth. Follow-up files would include information regarding majors, attempted credits and courses, date of degree completion and financial aid history.

Advocates of the database claim that the system would allow for comparisons of colleges and universities across state lines. Concerns, however, have been raised regarding a student's right to withhold personal information, the accessibility of data to identify thieves and hackers and the level of technology required to maintain the database.

—U-Wire

New faculty hiring contracts bolster departamental numbers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

may not change, even if our ratio does."

For now, however, the College is happy to have hired so many new faculty members. "We had an extremely successful recruiting season," said Byerly. "Because faculty positions are so specialized, it is sometimes difficult to identify the perfect candidate as well as have them accept your offer. But departments did an excellent job of recruiting top candidates who were happy to come to Middlebury."

Although the faculty hirings have positively affected the student-faculty ratio, they were not motivated by the explicit goal of lowering the ratio.

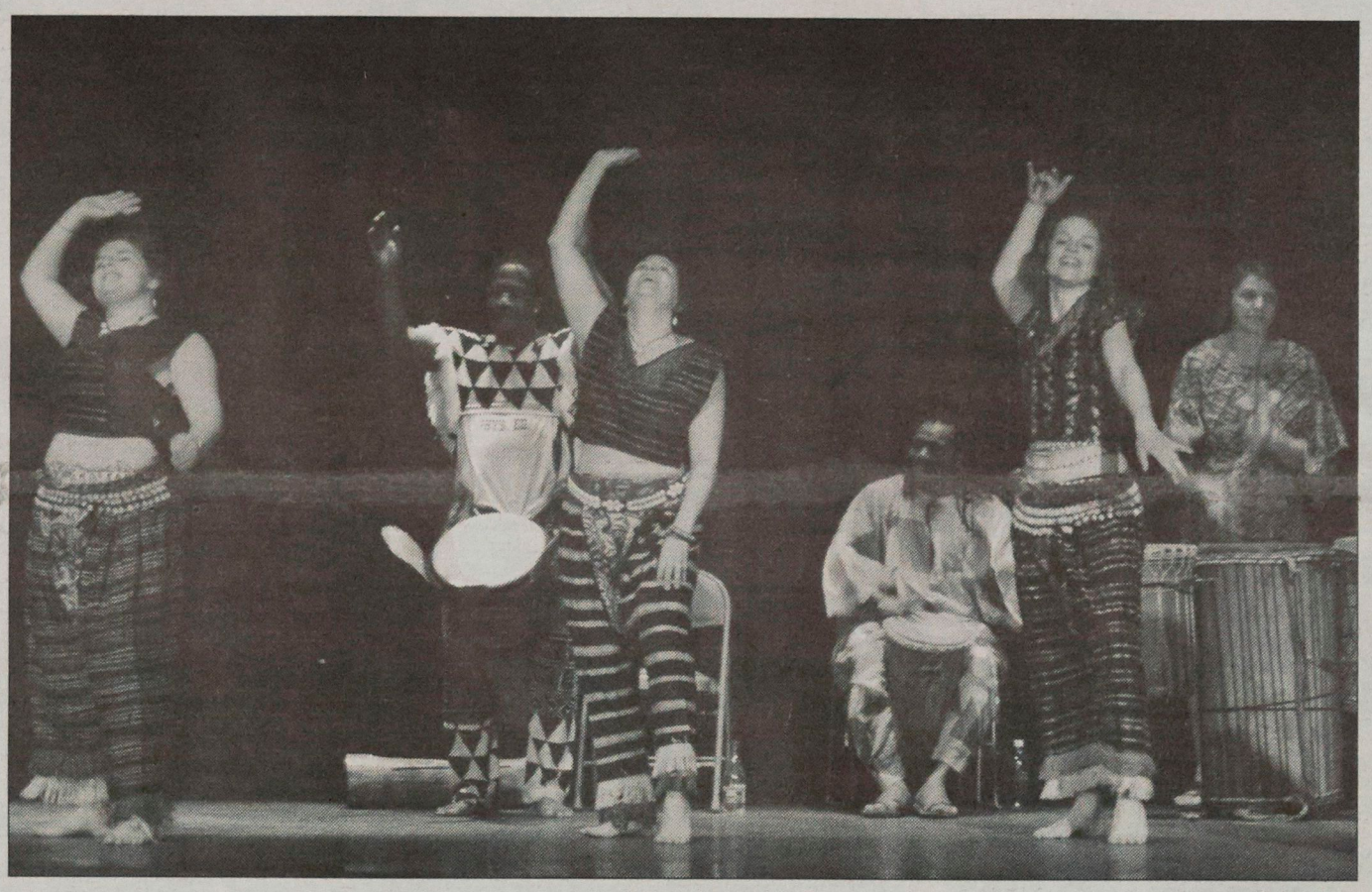
According to Byerly, "The administration chose to approve a number of additional positions for next year, above and beyond the standard FTE allocation, that were recommended by the faculty Educational Affairs Committee in order to address a variety of enrollment pressures and curricular demands." Byerly said that 16 of these new faculty positions will be tenure-track positions and 12 will be term positions.

Byerly went on to explain some of the exact staffing problems the new faculty will alleviate. "Two positions, for example, will help address enrollment pressures in Spanish, where interest continues to be strong, and in Economics, where class sizes are high due to heavy demand," she said.

Other newly hired faculty will act as an enhancement to the curriculum. "A new position that is a joint appointment in Chemistry and Environmental Studies will give environmental chemistry a stronger foothold in the Environmental Studies program," said Byerly. "One new hire in Political Science will add courses in the politics of the Middle East, while another Political Science colleague brings expertise in Africa. And a one-year Distinguished Visiting Scholar appointment is bringing Peter Plagens, a well-known art critic, to campus to teach. We hope that his appointment will help highlight the vital role played by the arts at Middlebury."

New professors have been hired in the following departments: German History, Environmental Chemistry, Religion, Medieval History of Art and Architecture, Economics, French Literature and Culture, Social Psychology, African Politics, International Politics, Classics, Philosophy and Spanish.

JAMMING FOR DARFUR



Sixiao Huo

Using traditional rhythms, Jeh Kulu brings the spirit of west African music and dance to McCullough Saturday for the ISO Benefit Concert for the Darfur region of Sudan. All proceeds will benefit victims of the ongoing genocide through Doctors Without Borders.

public safety log

APRIL 12, 2005 TO APRIL 15, 2005

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
4/12/05	Unknown	Theft	Bike	Perkins	Open
4/12/05	Unknown	Theft	Bike	Voter	No Suspects
4/12/04	Unknown	Theft	Bike	LaForce	Open
4/12/04	6:30 -7:30 p.m.	Theft	Back packs and contents	Ross	Referred to MPD
4/15/05	1:20 a.m.	Noise Complaint	Town Complaint	The Mill	Referred to Commons Dean
4/15/05	Unknown	Burglary	Residence	Hepburn	No Suspects
4/15/05	11:36 a.m.	Alcohol Offense	Possession by a Minor	Battell	Referred to Commons Dean
4/15/05	10:22 p.m.	Alcohol Offense	Possession by a Minor	Pearsons	Referred to Commons Dean
4/16/05	8:26 p.m.	Alcohol Offense	Possession by a Minor	Fletcher	Referred to Commons Dean
4/16/05	12:05 a.m.	Alcohol Offense	Possession by a Minor	Outside	Referred to Commons Dean
4/16/05	2:49 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Battell	Referred to Commons Dean
4/17/05	12:35 a.m.	Alcohol Offense	Possession by a Minor	Battell Beach	Referred to Commons Dean
4/17/05	6:30 p.m.	Theft	Food	McCullough Student Center	Referred to Commons Dean
4/17/05	Uknown	Vandalism	Window	Stewart	Open
4/17/05	12:00 a.m.	Theft	Window	McCullough Student Center	No Suspects

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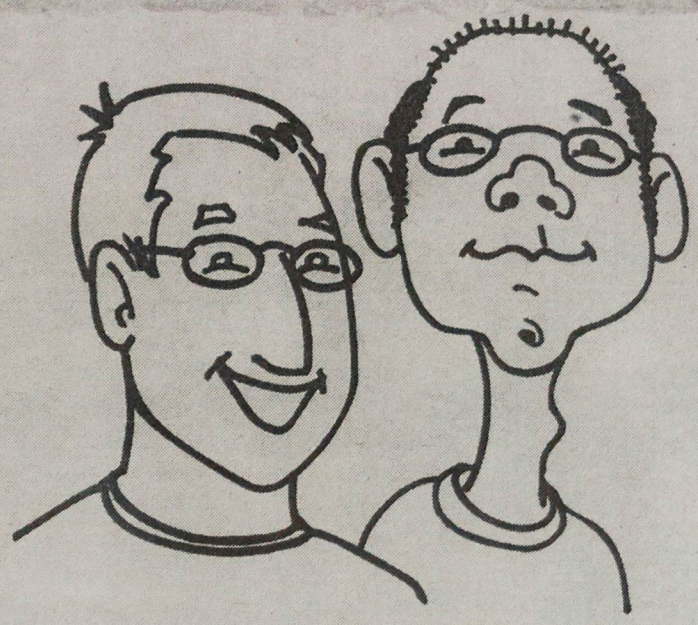

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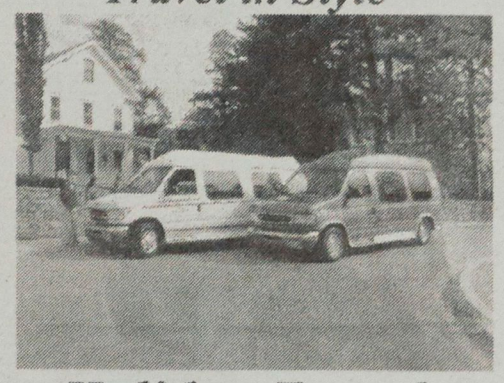

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8
LAMB BIRTHS BLEAT SLEEP
STUDENTS WATCH OVER PROFESSOR'S FLOCK BY NIGHT

9
PIZZA, ANYONE?
GRAB A PIECE OF MIDDLEBURY'S NEWEST PIE

10
TOWN HALL IN MIDST OF RENOVATION
HISTORIC SITE WILL SOON BE OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Students watch over local lambs

By Elspeth Pierson
Local News Editor

Don Mitchell, lecturer in English and Film and Media Culture, announced to our lecture hall on the first day of Nature's Meanings (EL 215) that we would each be required to spend an April night in his barn birthing lambs. We were all a bit surprised, perhaps, but in the cold of February, April was still a long way off and we were too preoccupied with trips to the Snow Bowl and Spring Break plans to worry about the off-beat assignment too much.

Last week, however, as lambing season approached in earnest and we were each asked to sign up for a night on watch, our interest (and our apprehension) grew. A note on the blackboard instructed us to "think bell curve" as we picked our night, meaning that we should base our decision on the fact that the most births were likely to occur during the middle of the month-long season.

Fearing the promise of a night filled with bleating lambs and possible complications, I chose one of the earliest dates and marked the fateful day warily in my assignment notebook. We covered the basics of delivery and emergency protocol during discussion on Friday, and Monday night at 9 p.m. sharp I met my trusty partner, Patrick Leibach '06, at Adirondack Circle to make the trip to Mitchell's farm.

We arrived around 9:30 p.m., in time to get the tour of the house and the barn from Mitchell's wife Cheryl. After being shown to our "office" — a windowed loft overlooking the barn floor — and given a few basic instructions, we were left on our own with the flock.

We quickly discovered that there had already been numerous births, and checked on each ewe and her lambs in the makeshift wooden pens that lined the barn walls. Recalling what we had learned in discussion, we noted that several of the newborn lambs needed to have their umbilical cords cut, and set about carrying out this first task. As Patrick held the first lamb and I readied the scissors, my anxiety mounted and I prepared myself for the resentful screams of an animal in pain. I snipped the shriveled black cord away and was amazed to see that the lamb did not even flinch, let alone cry out.

After this initial success, my fear was mitigated and the night proceeded with relative calm. Patrick and I managed to collect the recently birthed placenta (it often does not come out until several hours after the birth of the lambs) from the barn floor and place it in the well-loved "placenta bucket" that Cheryl had pointed out to us earlier. We then resigned ourselves to waiting and watching from the office, where a futon, an armchair and a space heater offered some relief from the chilly barn air.

After about an hour of attentive watchfulness, I began to have difficulty staying awake. Patrick offered to take over the watch for a while, so I allowed myself to doze off for an hour or so. Around 2 a.m. we went down to check on the barn again — all was well — and I took a turn on watch while Patrick napped.

At 3 a.m. we noticed an ewe in distress, pawing at the barn floor and circling uncomfortably, and my uneasiness quickly returned. We went down to corral the other ewes away from her, and stepped back to watch her from a careful distance. I was expecting to witness a long, painful labor, but before 20 minutes were up, the ewe was licking lovingly away at her newborn lamb. Her contractions appeared to be continuing, however, and we remembered Mitchell's warning that the ewes in his flock had been selected for high fertility, and that therefore the births usually occurred in twos or threes. Twenty easy minutes later, another lamb joined its sibling on the barn floor, and within an half hour both were on their feet and searching for milk. The mother-child bond was solidified quickly and soon they were all three licking each other and the two siblings were playing at falling into adorable little heaps in the hay.

The night continued without too much more ado — although the excitement of the births made sleep a bit more difficult — and when Mitchell came to retrieve us at dawn we were no worse for the wear. After morning chores and a hearty breakfast in the Mitchell kitchen, I was tired but smiling and ready to return to campus with a story of success and high spirits.

Emilie McDonald
Expecting ewes crowd around a breakfast of hay, restless after a long night of waiting in the barn's close quarters.

Emilie McDonald
A mother ewe licks her newborn lambs clean after a relatively easy birth.

What you don't know about lambs....

In a normal birth, the ewe births the lamb with its two front hooves emerging first, then its nose.

An ewe will lick her lambs clean immediately following birth, an instinctual action that forms the mother-child bond between the ewe and her lambs.

Most ewes are bred to birth between two-four lambs per litter.

Within 30 minutes of birth, a healthy lamb will be on its feet and nursing.

NY-style pizza place spices up Midd

By Sarah Shaikh
Staff Writer

Step aside Neil and Otto's — there is a new pizza place in town that is making local news headlines. Most Middlebury students are familiar with the Middlebury Discount Beverage Store fondly referred to as "Bev Co." and known for its wide range of beverages (mostly of the alcoholic variety). Well now when you head over to Bev Co., keep your eyes peeled for Ramunto's, the new pizza gem. The restaurant was initially opened in August 2004 as the Backhome Kitchen by David Nienow who has been working in the Middlebury Food business for over 25 years. The Backhome Kitchen specialized in BBQ, sandwiches, burgers and other sort of home-cooked staples. However, like many new first-years, the Backhome Kitchen struggled through its first Middlebury winter. Nienow confessed, "We didn't send a message about what we were doing. We needed to start paying attention to the parking lot. Once we did, we realized what people wanted was something that was 'Hot, fast and delicious in 2 minutes.' Nienow focused his energy towards finding something that fit that description and from this, Ramunto's opened in Middlebury in early April.

Nienow said, "Many of the students and people who move to Middlebury come from urban areas and understand urban style pizza. It is something needed and wanted. And what everyone eventually learns in the food business is that as a chef or even as a manager you have to give people what they want but also something you enjoy giving. I really enjoy making the pizzas. They are all very individual. It's like being a potter — a potter does everything to make sure that the pot is beautiful when it comes out of the kiln, that's the same approach I take towards making pizzas."

"I really enjoy making the pizzas. They are all very individual. It's like being a potter — a potter does everything to make sure that the pot is beautiful when it comes out of the kiln, that's the same approach I take towards making pizzas."

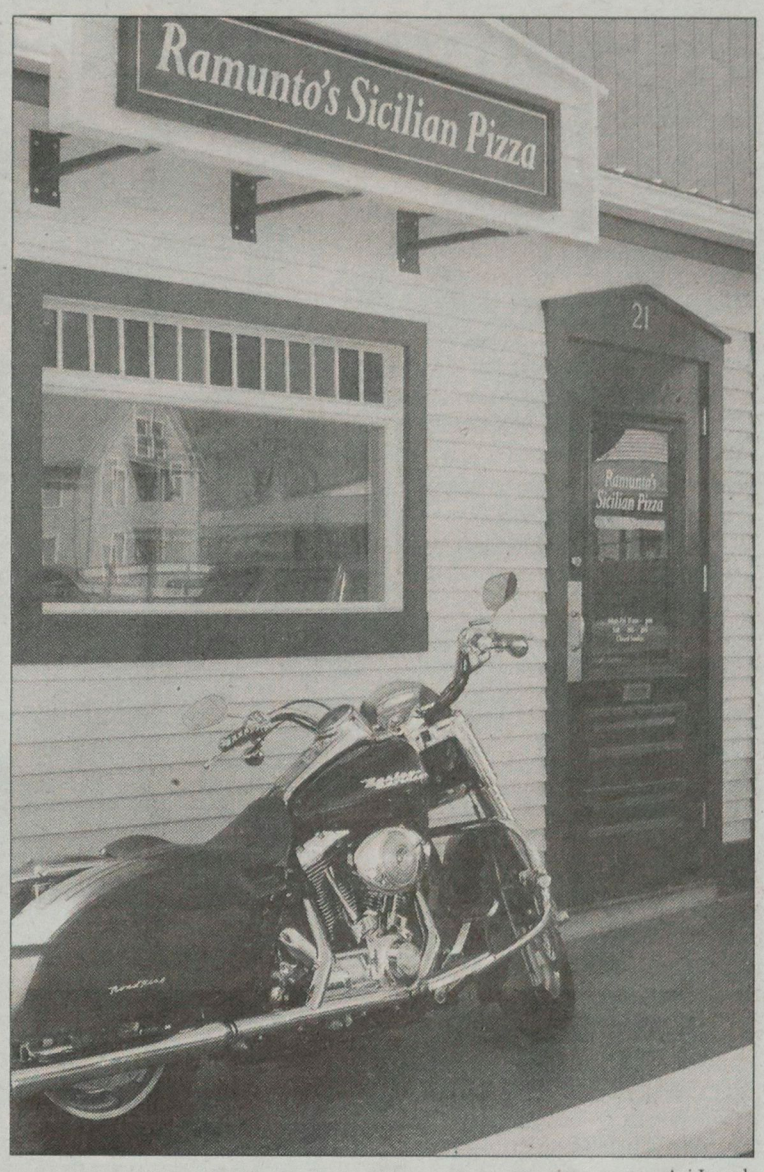
— David Nienow, Ramunto's manager

Ramunto's specializes in Sicilian and New York style pizza, but it also serves up excellent calzones. Along with the traditional pizzas, such as cheese and pepperoni, Ramunto's offers many alternatives to a traditional pizza pie such as the "California Dream," which combines basil and pine nut pesto with seared sweet Red Peppers, California ripe olives, artichoke hearts and sun-dried tomatoes on top of four cheeses. Or try Ramunto's Famous Garlic Knot Pie, which consists of a NY-style crust circled with garlic knots and brushed with olive oil and fresh garlic and then topped with tomato sauce, mozzarella and American cheese. Ramunto's also offers large New York Style slices, which are perfect for a quick bite.

"People love pizza, and with slices people can have a bit of what they love without having to buy a whole pie," said Nienow. And the best thing is that not only is the pizza excellent and the portions huge, Ramunto's also provides every Midd-kid with an extremely reasonable priced alternative to dinner in Atwater.

If you like pizza and have not yet been to Ramunto's, it is a must for all Middlebury students. On Monday afternoon, I ventured there with two friends and we were overly impressed with their kindness and excitement about their restaurant.

Nienow would not stop giving us food — we had everything from pesto, garlic dough balls to samples of the "fancy" pepperoni that Nienow kindly chopped up especially for us to sample and have on our wonderful pizza. We were overwhemed — and full — after our afternoon experience at Ramunto's. We're definitely going back with the coupon given to us by Nienow for another free pizza. But if you don't trust us, listen to a fellow student, Alyson Bourne, '07.5, who said, "The pepperoni is so good. It's fast but it's not fast food. It tastes so good. It's definitely gourmet!"



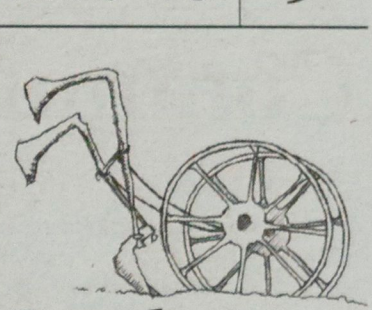
Ari Joseph

Open just over two weeks, Ramunto's has attracted community residents and students with its homemade pizza recipes and friendly, helpful staff.

NEW COFFEE HOT SPOT

Ari Joseph

As a new alternative to the Grille, the Great Falls Fine Art Center Cafe, located in Frog Hollow, promises to offer another comfortable haven in town for residents, students and professors to relax, work and hang out.



Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

For some urban dwellers, a romp in the countryside is the perfect destination for a springtime vacation. The stretching acres of unobstructed views bring serenity and a simple peacefulness. But when those who already dwell in the pastoral lands desire some rest and relaxation, they must also look elsewhere. My parents, for instance, are currently on vacation in the heart of Pennsylvania Dutch country. They have chosen to spend their time off in a place even more vacant than our hometown, a place where rurality is still at its most basic roots. The Amish, you see, have no Internet, no cable television and no picture cell phones — they do not even have electricity. One is likely to pass a horse and buggy on the road, and Sundays are still a day of rest, left for the young to "go a-courtin'."

Can we look into the practices of our forefathers for the solution to modern-day ills? The current fuel crunch is devastating to the farmers throughout the nation. Dairy farms for one rely on fossil fuels as energy for their milking operations, planting, cultivating and harvesting of crops, fertilizer costs and daily (or twice daily) milk hauling costs. Depending on what it is doing — pulling a chopper through a hay field or transporting daily feed to the animals — a tractor can burn anything from eight to 20 gallons of fuel in an hour. Gasoline prices are expected to reach at least $3 a gallon this summer, meaning it'll cost anywhere from $24 to $60 per hour to finance one tractor. May through August is when crops are in their prime and farmers spend most of daylight with tractors in the fields. A 10-plus hour workday, six to seven days a week. You do the math. Instead of asking if we have "Got Milk?" dairy farmers will be worrying if they have "Got enough money for gasoline?"

What can be done to keep farmers from bartering their souls to keep their operations out of debt? Although their dating rituals feel a bit Victorian for the 21st century, the Amish do seem to have something right. Farmers, I suppose, could take their own sojourn to Amish country and learn the techniques of old, plowing with a horse and milking with their bare hands. Yet these practices are more physically demanding and extremely time consuming, which could put a real damper on one's social life. Or instead of looking to the past for the answer, perhaps they could look to the future.

Since 1982, Foster Brothers Farm in Middlebury has used an anaerobic digester to generate power for their farmstead. This machine is a way to produce energy from dairy's manure. Methane gas given off by the animal refuse is fed into an internal combustion engine connected to an electrical generator. Interesting. If such a device were to hit the mainstream farming world, farmers everywhere would have more money and time to spend their Sunday's as the Amish do and go a-courtin'.

Community landmark sees massive change

By Polly Johnson
Local News Editor

I've driven past that mysterious building overlooking the town green hundreds of times, wondering why it's covered in scaffolding and why I have never heard anything about it. After my Monday afternoon tour of the renovation project with Executive Director Doug Anderson, however, I learned what an interesting history the structure has and what an impressive future is in store for it.

The Town Hall Theater has a long history — it was constructed in 1884 by architect Clinton Smith to be the town hall of Middlebury. It included town offices and a theater, and it was once the cultural hub of Middlebury life. In the 1950s, however, the town offices were relocated and the building was sold. It was turned into a bar and the interior was ripped out and gutted and what was once the heart of community life slowly deteriorated into an empty, windowless shell.

"The town pretty much forgot it had ever had a theater, and when I taught at Middlebury in the 80s, I wondered why we didn't have a theater."

— Doug Anderson, executive director

I toured the building with Anderson, who was a theater professor at Middlebury in the '80s, and who works now with the music and theater departments. The outside of the building looks crumbled in places, due to the bricks that have been removed to unveil the windows. The inside looks like a construction site, although its high ceilings and big stage foreshadow a future of a beautiful theater and community space. The walls show remnants of wallpaper dating back to when it first opened in 1884. Anderson foresees the site as a completely community-oriented space, where shows, weddings and concerts can take place. He also envisions it being used by the local schools for performances.

Anderson was eager to share the Town Hall Theater's history and the current status of its renovation. "There was a big movement in the 1990s to restore many of the town halls in Vermont, which had a lot to do with our senator Jim Jeffords," who provided state funding, Anderson explained. "The town pretty much forgot it had ever had a theater, and when I taught at Middlebury in the '80s, I wondered why we didn't have a theater." At the time Anderson decided to pursue the project, "it was a bar, there were no windows anywhere, it was a horrible space and only the remains of the theater were left upstairs."

Anderson worked with Christian A. Johnson Professor of Art Glenn Andres, going around town and asking local citizens about raising money. Along the way, they questioned if what they were trying to accomplish was even feasible.

Remarkably, they "got lots of great feedback from the town and we raised $500,000, with the help of the College as well." Anderson said, "So far, we've raised $1.8 million and we still have a couple million more to go." Although he noted that they will probably never make back all the money they will eventually end up spending on it, he admitted that's just what happens when you do work like this. The ultimate payoff will not be monetary, but rather it will be the excitement of having a cultural center for the residents of Middlebury.

On July 3, 2005, there will be a special ceremony, which will include returning the town bell that currently sits in front of the Sheldon Museum to the theater. Anderson told me the story of the bell — in the '50s, Sam Emilo, a controversial town resident, stole the bell from the town hall in the middle of the night because he wanted to melt it into scrap metal and sell it. The townspeople immediately responded, collecting money so that they could buy it back from him. They caught up with Emilo in Rutland and bargained with him so that Middlebury won the bell back, with the provision that Emilo be credited as the giver of the bell. Now, on the plaque next to the bell in front of the Sheldon Museum, there is a plaque that recognizes the bell as a gift from Emilo to the community.

In remembrance of that story and the townspeople who had the will to save a valuable part of Middlebury, on July 3, 2005, two Morgan Horses will carry a cart holding the bell through the town. It will be returned to the Town Hall, and will be followed by a community picnic on the town green, during which the townspeople will hear the bell's ring for the first time for decades. The community has welcomed this project with open arms, and as Anderson said encouragingly, "Everybody's behind this, everyone wants this."

Ari Joseph
With a plan to be open by this June, the Middlebury Town Hall Theater is in the middle of a huge construction.

The Middlebury Campus

IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS FOR THE FALL 2005 SEMESTER UNTIL APRIL 26.

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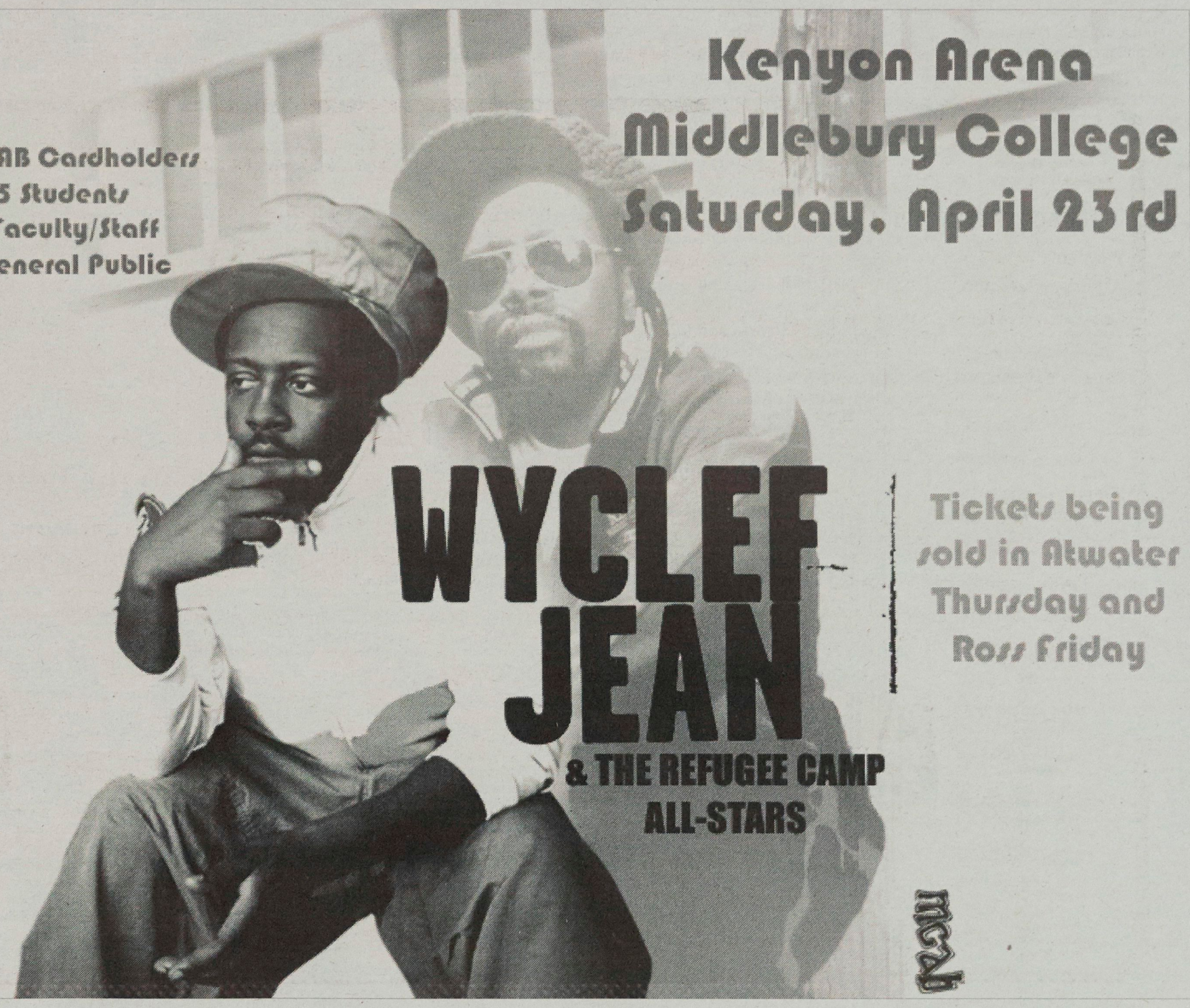

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opinions

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Editorial

Saper for SGA President

We have heard a lot of tired ideas about how to liven-up the College's on-campus social life. But Dan Saper has a new plan, and we think this one is actually good. Co-hosted social house parties — Saper mentioned Tavern and ADP as a possible pair — might just get us all together having a good time some Saturday soon.

It's this kind of creativity — and familiarity with what matters most to Middlebury students — that earns Dan Saper the endorsement of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board for the position of Student Government Association (SGA) president.

Saper looks poised to be a strong crusader for student interests, and his polished presentation skills suggest he'll convey the student voice to College administrators in a compelling way. Middlebury students need an SGA president who is in touch with their concerns and Saper's broad base of campus knowledge assures us that he knows where we are coming from.

His pledge to use surveys and petitions to capture popular student opinion and submit those opinions to the College's decision-makers impressed us even more. On the other hand, Saper seems well prepared to understand how the administrative viewpoint might best match up with student desires. Saper's knowledge of student interest would provide a fitting balance to the administrative know-how of J.S. Woodward, who we hope to see serve in the SGA's number-two job alongside Saper.

While many candidates have pledged to support environmental programs, Saper's thoughtful support of the Mini-Grant program and interest in investing the College's endowment in sustainable corporations makes him stand out as the greenest candidate.

Saper's current experience as an SGA senator gives him a strong foundation in student government and, with a bill to push for the expansion of the College's wireless Internet network currently in the works, Saper has us ready for more.

Woodward for SCCOCC

J.S. Woodward may have won his current spot as Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC) in an uncontested election last spring, but his track record in the position since then earns him the unanimous endorsement of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board in this year's race.

Decrying the lack of student input into the recent considerations about the acquisition Monterey Institute for International Studies and poor student representation on the Planning Committee for Middlebury's Future, Woodward impressed us with his initiative to include more student input in major Middlebury College decisions.

While we recognize Woodward's excellent work on the Community Council, he will have to ensure that his insider status in the coming year does not prevent him from putting student opinion first while serving on the College's chief policy-making body. As SCCOCC, Woodward should remember that he is students' biggest advocate in the decision-making process, and we count on him to convey our sentiments.

The editorial board is still in awe of the hours Woodward spends pouring over the College Handbook (we initially thought he was kidding) and his pledge to go through the Handbook with a fine tooth comb reminds us of the steadfast commitment and effort he has already demonstrated as SCCOCC all year long. We applaud Woodward's accomplishments and look forward to what will come.

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The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

By Vu Tran

No room at Midd for intolerance

When I got back to my room after Hillel's Purim party at Pearsons Hall, I saw it. My laminated nametag had been torn off my door, which had been defaced. On the door — not the white board — a message was written in dry-erase marker in pretty big letters: "You Fag." I wasn't quite in the state of mind to react right then and there, so I didn't think about it until the next morning. When I woke up and left my room, I saw the writing on my door once again and decided I wasn't going to just erase it and forget about it. I mentioned it to a few friends at dinner that evening, and they were as disturbed as I was.

One thing I hoped to never hear again when I came to college was "That's so gay," which was uttered profusely at my high school. I coveted an atmosphere in which not only is no one judged based on his or her sexual preference, but also where offensive expressions were not commonplace. Students have the right to live in a safe space is violated by expressions of hatred.

It doesn't matter to me whether or not the culprit was drunk, or if he (and yes, I'd be willing to bet that it was a guy) even knew whose room he was at when he decided to vandalize part of the dorm. His actions were disgusting and inexcusable.

As prospective students visit the campus, we all want to show Middlebury at its best. This incident, however, reflects very poorly on the College. If someone who is seriously considering coming to Middlebury College sees derogatory writing on a door, he or she could be highly offended and easily decide that Middlebury is not the right place for him or her. Or if a parent sees something of the sort, he might discourage his child from choosing Middlebury.

If whoever defaced my door the other night is reading this, maybe you should think about how you'd feel if I wrote "Homophobe" or "Bigot" on your door. It isn't difficult to show basic respect for your fellow students.

DAVID SHOENHOLTZ '07
AN ITALIAN MAJOR
FROM BETHESDA, MD.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

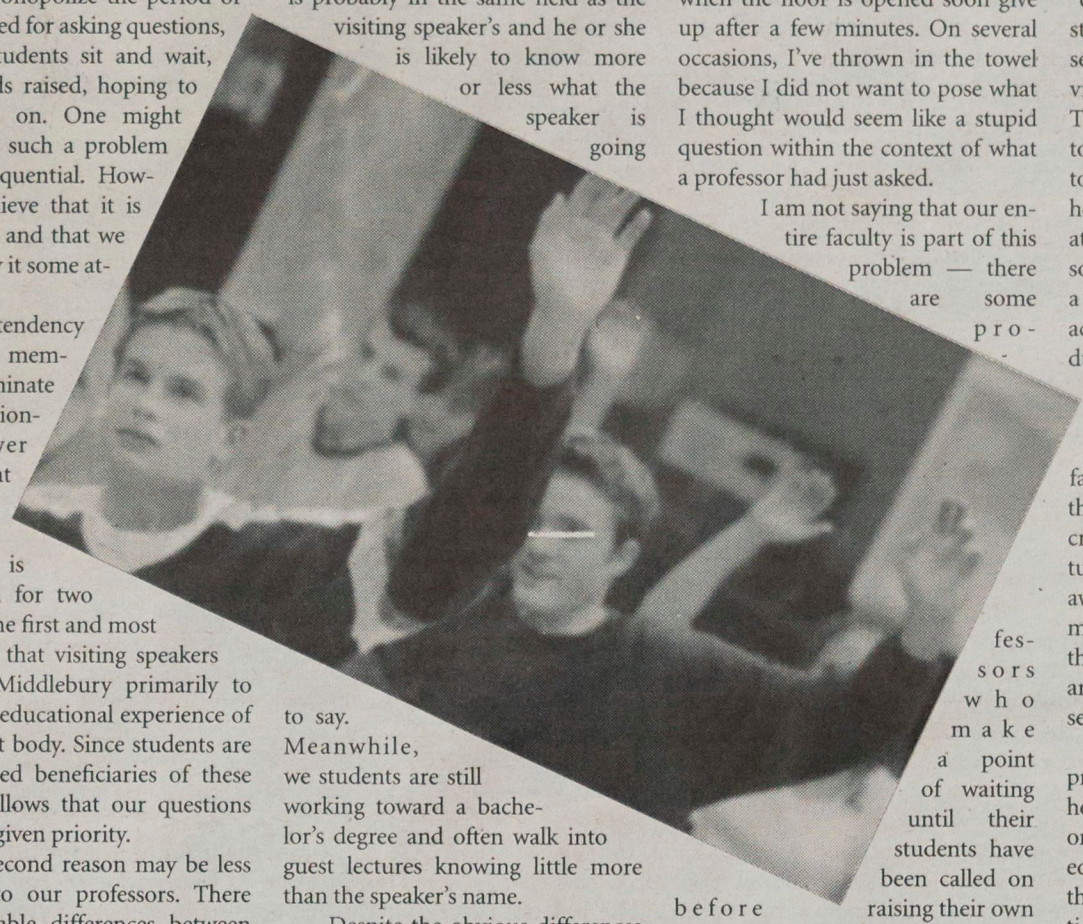
I don't remember the hero Rudy Giuliani, but I *do* remember the man who allowed his police force to abuse African-Americans and to promote racial profiling. Of special note was his police force's killing of an African immigrant. I was really pleased to see that David Edleson [*"Giuliani seems like misguided choice," April 7*] agrees that Giuliani was a "misguided choice" for the college graduation. Remember that this man who was referred to as America's mayor used this celebrity stature to ask for the privilege of executing Osama Bin Laden. The only thing that should be wiped out is the decision to invite Giuliani and his questionable practice to a place with the credibility and respectability of Middlebury College.

Sincerely,
James Higgins
Lincoln, Vt.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during offical college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, Vt. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director.

Faculty should give students a chance

I would like to point out what I see as a problem with our College. At guest lectures, faculty members habitually monopolize the period of time allotted for asking questions, even as students sit and wait, their hands raised, hoping to get called on. One might think that such a problem is inconsequential. However, I believe that it is significant and that we should pay it some attention.



The tendency of faculty members to dominate the question-and-answer period at the end of guest lectures is a problem for two reasons. The first and most obvious is that visiting speakers come to Middlebury primarily to enrich the educational experience of the student body. Since students are the intended beneficiaries of these talks, it follows that our questions should be given priority.

The second reason may be less apparent to our professors. There are noticeable differences between the questions asked by professors and those asked by students — generally, professors tend to challenge the speaker more, with complex and long-winded questions. This is completely understandable — almost our entire faculty has a Ph.D. If a faculty member attends a department-sponsored talk, his or her doctorate is probably in the same field as the visiting speaker's and he or she is likely to know more or less what the speaker is going to say. Meanwhile, we students are still working toward a bachelor's degree and often walk into guest lectures knowing little more than the speaker's name.

Despite the obvious differences in our respective academic qualifications, however, it is still intimidating following a professor's nuanced query — often garnished with inside jokes and myriad obscure references — with a simple question based merely on an hour's worth of attention to the speaker's arguments. Many students who raise their hands when the floor is opened soon give up after a few minutes. On several occasions, I've thrown in the towel because I did not want to pose what I thought would seem like a stupid question within the context of what a professor had just asked.

I am not saying that our entire faculty is part of this problem — there are some professors who make a point of waiting until their students have been called on before raising their own hands. Nor do I mean to suggest that there is no value in faculty members asking questions at guest lectures. Often, their questions illuminate the topic, open up a new avenue of discussion or prompt the speaker to rephrase one of his or her arguments in a way that makes more sense.

However, just as often, the "questions" professors ask are in fact statements intended to make themselves look smart and/or make the visiting speaker look misinformed. This unfailingly results in the visitor embarking on a long digression to save face by showing how much he or she knows about the subject at hand. Intentionally or not, professors frequently turn what should be a time of clarification into a game of academic one-upsmanship with the dubious goal of inflating their own reputations.

The solution to this problem should not be legislation. Rather, faculty members should take it upon themselves to give students the first crack at asking questions at guest lectures, even if it results in occasional awkward silences. I propose that we make it a tradition at Middlebury that the first 15 minutes of question-and-answer at guest lectures are reserved solely for students.

One of the greatest tributes any professor could hope to receive is to hear one of his or her students demonstrate the quality of a Middlebury education by asking an intelligent, thought-provoking, informed question of a visiting speaker. If our faculty could put aside their egos every so often and let us have the floor, I think they would be surprised.

DAN MOROSANI '05
AN IP&E AND RUSSIAN MAJOR
FROM NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

Giuliani does not deserve Midd degree

As a resident of New York City for the past 18 years and a former Middlebury College student, I was disappointed to learn that Middlebury will be awarding Rudolph Giuliani an honorary degree.

Giuliani, however honorably he conducted himself on 9/11, governed a polarized NYC. He was loyal to his friends — Bernard Kerick's appointment as Police Commissioner, despite a thin resume — and vicious to his enemies — cutting Legal Aid's budget after a short and ill-fated strike by its attorneys. He imposed his self-defined morality by slashing public funding to the Brooklyn Museum because of an exhibition he found objectionable — the museum later won in Federal Court. At the same time, Giuliani was widely-rumored to be conducting an extra-marital affair with a high-ranking staff member. When Giuliani ultimately decided to end his marriage, the public manner in which he pursued the matter revealed him as self-centered and insensitive.

Many New Yorkers believe Giuliani's dogmatic and uncritical support for the police created an environment hostile to civil liberties, contributing to the deaths of individuals like Amadou Diallo and Patrick Dorismond.

Since September 11, 2001...through the vehicle of Giuliani Associates, he has been able to enrich himself and capitalize on the image he nurtured in the days following the tragic event.

Giuliani's bias in these matters was amply displayed when he authorized the — unlawful — release of Dorismond's family court record within hours of his shooting by the police. Giuliani later publicly criticized Bruce Springsteen for writing a song — containing the refrain: "41 shots" — about Diallo's death. It outraged the mayor that anyone might criticize the justice of an upstate New York jury acquitting police officers for the homicide of an unarmed, African immigrant in the Bronx.

By the year 2000, Giuliani's popularity in the city had markedly declined and he withdrew from the U.S. Senate race. Since September 11, 2001, however, through the vehicle of Giuliani Associates, he has been able to enrich himself and capitalize on the image he nurtured in the days following that tragic event.

I understand that the College administration recently rebuked this newspaper for an illustration that accompanied a piece opposing Giuliani as commencement speaker. I hope that this controversy will not serve to distract and stifle debate within the Middlebury community on the more important issue: whether, given his entire record, Giuliani deserves this honor.

WARD J. OLIVER '77
FROM NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

NOTES
FROM THE DESK

As a first-year student I thought that most of my tough decision-making days about college were over after I picked a school at which to matriculate. I was sure that there would never again be a choice filled with as much anxiety as that decision last April. One year later, I can look back and say to myself, "Wow! I was really naive." Because now with the end of the year fast-approaching we are again faced with not one but two of these angst-filled decisions — room draw and course registration.

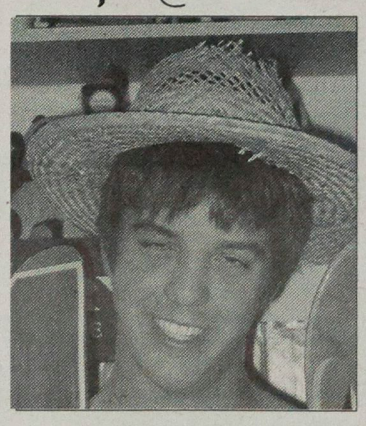
Now, I know that these are two very important decisions that will have an impact for at least a semester. And I know that they have to be made by the end of the year. But what I question is why they have to be made in consecutive weeks. Why aren't students given at least a week in which to relax, contemplate and recover from these two stressful times? My new experience with room draw — studying floor plans for hours with my friends and plotting the way in which to steal, deal and cheat our way to our best living arrangement — has been comparable to a military planning for an invasion. I doubt that my experience is unique to the Middlebury community, so why are we forced to do the same thing the following week?

Immediately after this exhausting process of room draw we are asked to select courses for next year. If you are an upperclassman with first pick for classes, you will probably get the courses you want except for those reserved for other majors. But for underclassmen the competition is cutthroat for that spot in the class that everyone seems to want. Should we really be forced to make such tough decisions when we have not had sufficient time to plan for fulfilling distribution and major requirements?

It is tough enough for a student with a bad number to find a way to stay in their commons without also trying to fulfill enough major credits to graduate in four years. Why can't the college schedule be changed to give students a break in which to collect themselves after room draw so they are in the right mind in which to plan their collegiate future? Wouldn't we all benefit? I know I would.

ZAMIR AHMED
SPORTS EDITOR

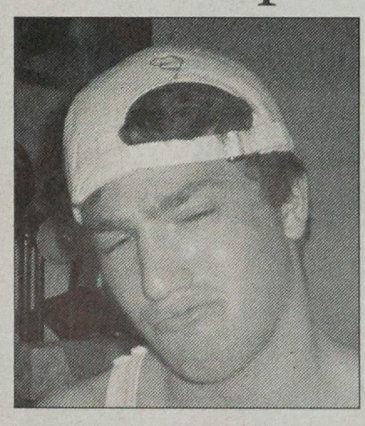
The Middlebury Campus online poll



THEY'S HELLA TIGHT YO.

I DON'T THINK THAT THE SGA'S EFFORTS ARE ALL THAT VISIBLE ON CAMPUS. CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS ACHIEVE SO MUCH MORE . THE SGA IS JUST A FIGURE-HEAD.

— TAYLOR JOHNSTON '07

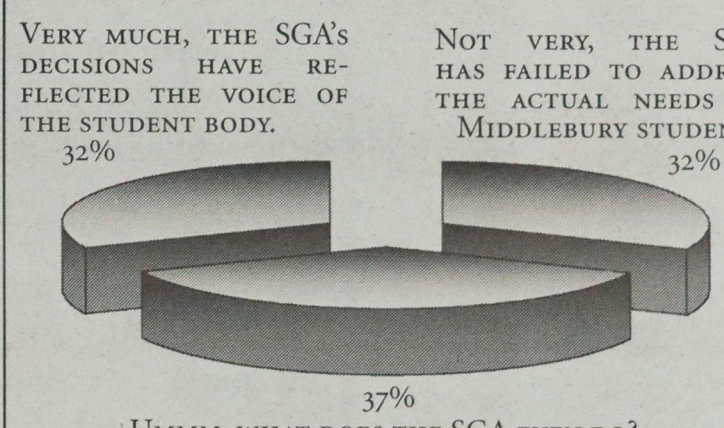


WHAT HAS THE SGA DONE FOR ME LATELY?

— KIERAN COE '07

— JUSTIN WRIGHT '08

HOW EFFECTIVE DO YOU THINK THE SGA HAS BEEN THIS YEAR?


VERY MUCH, THE SGA'S DECISIONS HAVE REFLECTED THE VOICE OF THE STUDENT BODY.
32%
NOT VERY, THE SGA HAS FAILED TO ADDRESS THE ACTUAL NEEDS OF MIDDLEBURY STUDENTS.
32%
37%
UMMM, WHAT DOES THE SGA EVEN DO?

Results based on 46 responses collected between April 14 and April 19 at www.middleburycampus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: DO YOU THINK MIDDLEBURY SHOULD ACQUIRE THE MONTEREY INSTITUTE?

sgareportcard

THE SGA YEAR IN REVIEW

By Sonja Pedersen-Green
Opinions Editor

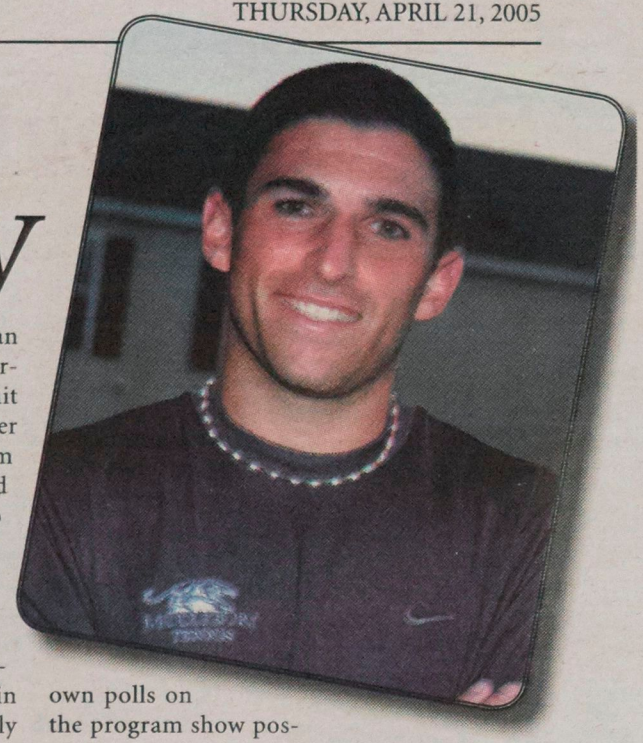
Andrew Jacobi '05 had his work cut out for him after being elected president of the Student Government Association (SGA) last spring. The previous SGA, under the direction of Sam Rodriguez '04, was widely criticized for its inactivity and lack of achievements. In his own campaign, Jacobi proposed several major items for the SGA's 2005-2006 agenda. Jacobi told *The Middlebury Campus* during his campaign that he hoped to, among other things, bridge the gap between the SGA, students and administrators; to amend the physical education requirements so that community service might be completed instead and to send a weekly e-mail to the student body that would detail issues before the SGA.

Looking back, Jacobi says he feels that he has worked towards improving the relationship between students, SGA and administrators. "I think the SGA this year has done a really good job of representing the student body. I have been very impressed with the amount of research the senators do [...] I think the greatest accomplishment of the SGA this year [has been] our ability to objectively observe the sentiments of students and diplomatically relay [them] to administrators." One of those accomplishments was the installation of blue lights on campus this year. In his campaign, Jacobi cited better lighting and call boxes among his proposals last spring, including blue lights as a step towards making the campus a safer place.

As for the weekly e-mails, Jacobi decided that they would be more of an annoyance than anything. After meeting with his cabinet earlier this year, he decided, "Students would hit the delete button on SGA e-mails even faster if most e-mails just stated the minutes from the past meeting." Instead, Jacobi has opted to send out e-mails asking for responses to polls, advertising a committee or letting students know something important — as has been tradition for the SGA.

You may have noticed that there has been no change in the physical education (PE) requirements this year. That idea was rejected in his talks with a couple of administrators early this year. Jacobi now says, "If there is one regret I have this year, it is that I didn't challenge academic decisions as much as I should have. I came in thinking that academics are the realm of the faculty but I think we students have a responsibility to challenge assumptions about our academics and make them heard." Changing the College's PE credits/requirements has resurfaced as a campaign issue for this year's candidates — Jacobi's shortcoming on the issue might prompt current SGA presidential hopefuls to consider a different approach or, as Jacobi suggested, use the impetus of the students to propagate change in the program.

One of the biggest programs that Jacobi oversaw was the implementation not of a campaign promise but of the Napster initiative. The program allows students access to myriad songs from their computers at any time of the day or night. While the program has received mixed reviews and service is not available to many students who use Macs, the SGA says its own polls on the program show positive response from students.



Although Jacobi's tenure saw the removal of the generally popular (among students) MidDRS program and the implementation of the lockdown, he said he feels the College is moving in the right direction, especially in terms of social life. When discussing his efforts to liberalize on-campus party policies, Jacobi said, "The College is moving in the right direction in terms of understanding that the focus of the College must be on ensuring the safety of the students, not on disciplining them."

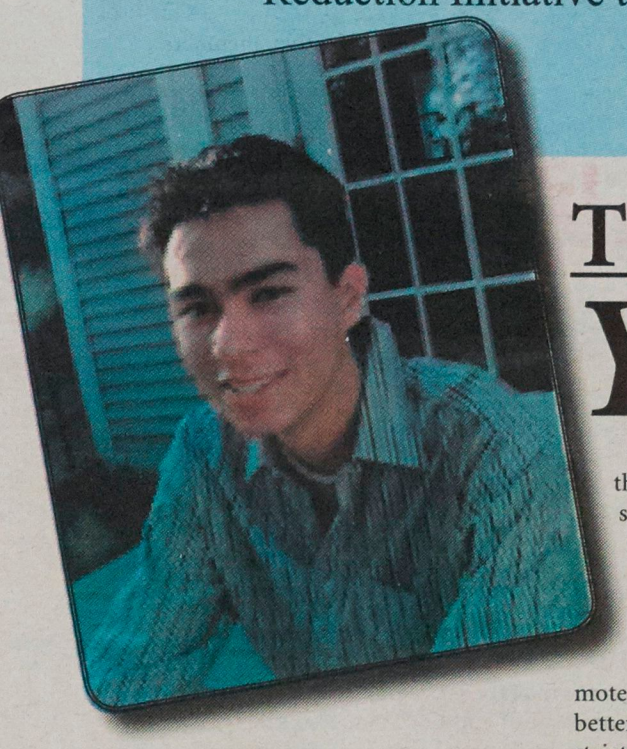
Despite his inability to convince the administration to change the PE requirements, Jacobi has been successful in at least proposing the issues from his campaign platform. Candidates for next year's position as SGA president can now use his tenure as evidence of the obstacles they may face — with the administration, the students and other members of the SGA.

THE 2004-05 STUDENT GOVERNMENT

DID	DIDN'T
Bridge the Gap SGA represented student interests to the College administration.	**Finish the Bridge** SGA scrapped a student newsletter for several online polls and event advertisements.
Buy Us All Music Implemented Napster initiative succesfully reducing illegal music downloading on campus.	**Add a Movie Package** Promises of dreamy DVD rental machines in dorms vaporized mid-year when the company dropped the contract.
Bring in the Blue Lights Jacobi's campaign promise of improved lighting and safety on-campus was fufilled with the appearance of blue lights.	**Send Out the "Ross Toucher"** Blue lights don't do much good when the intruder is in your room.
Maintain our Newspapers Newspapers were made available in all dining halls for student convenience.	**Maintain Our Room Service** With Proctor cups flying from the racks, SGA failed to keep its cozy DRS room service alive.

THE 2004-05 COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DID	DIDN'T
Revise the Alcohol Policy By relaxing the risks and restrictions for party hosts and opening new spaces and hours for parties to be held in, CC created new incentives to stay on-campus.	**Revise the IM Policy** Woodward's campaign promise to separate intramural sports from the commons system never became a reality when it slammed into the administration.
Promote Student Voice When controversy came to town over the College's non-discrimination policy for recruiters, the CC helped organize community forums and aggresively solicited student input for policy change.	**Promote Student Art** "Smog" remains the pinnacle of on-campus art. This leftover from Woodward's 2004 campaign has popped up again in the platforms of multiple candidates this spring.
Save the Environment The CUPPS program has returned and the Carbon Reduction Initiative trudges along.	**Save the DRS** It may have been a campaign issue for Woodward, but the Dish Recovery System died fast when Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette pulled the plug last J-term.



THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
YEAR IN REVIEW

By Ben Salkowe
SPECIAL PROJECTS EDITOR

JS Woodward, student co-chair of Community Council, may not have scored all of his campaign promises this past year, but moved the big ones and took up multiple issues which arose in the year.

"Overall, I'm quite happy with the way this year turned out, especially considering the huge number of people and human hours diverted to the Strategic Planning Initiative," said Woodward. "If anyone thought last spring was frustrating because few people were willing to discuss new ideas because President McCardell was stepping down, this year has been five times worse because the College is orientating itself on a new, yet to be developed six-year plan."

Woodward's primary campaign concern last spring was improving on-campus social life. "The administration openly expresses worry that too many students are going off campus to party. The solution is simple: give the students incentive to stay on campus," he told *The Campus* in a pre-election interview. In his campaign, Woodward's biggest social life initiatives were reopening more lounges for parties, extending party hours and opening the Center for the Arts (CFA) for student activity use. In the past year most of the Council's progress on social life issues was in revising the alcohol policies in the College Handbook, which were the first item addressed by the SGA last fall.

The alcohol policy revisions included a number of changes to promote the hosting of parties. Hosts are now better protected from a state law that restricts open containers of alcohol from being carried in public spaces. The law means that even of-age students cannot have open containers of alcohol, for example, when walking across campus. Before the policy revisions students who broke the law were subjected only to citations, while the hosts were fined. Under the revisions, now the students with open containers receive warnings at first notice, and are fined $50 for each subsequent violation.

Additionally, the policy revisions led to the creation of "senior common rooms" where of-age students may consume alcohol. Of-age students can also now host small "gatherings" in their rooms, suites or houses, and serve alcohol without registering the event.

"I feel that I achieved my primary [social life] objectives, which largely centered on alcohol policy," said Woodward. "I've heard fewer complaints from students of-age and fewer complaints about the party registration process."

Another top priority for Woodward was promoting the student voice on campus. "I feel that students really learned this year that they can speak and be heard. This was illustrated in the non-discrimination issue, as well as the petitions against the SGA proposed security cameras in the dining halls," said Woodward. "I only hope that this trend continues and will do my best to encourage it."

The "non-discrimination issue" was arguably the most prominent debate within the 2004-2005 Community Council. When a military recruiter used an exception in the College's non-discrimination clause to hold an information session, and then recruit on-campus, despite the military's discriminatory recruiting policies, the Community Council found itself in the midst of a national debate over whether to allow the recruiters to continue using the College's facilities. Woodward worked with Co-Chair Ann Hanson, dean of Student Affairs, to hold community forums on the policy which ultimately led the Council to recommend policy revisions that would prevent discriminatory employers from participating in the College's recruitment programs, but still would allow them to speak on campus.

Another of Woodward's campaign promises was separating the intramural sports from the commons system. Many students have been frustrated by the administrations pushing of the intramural sports onto the commons framework. Woodward conceded he had not been able to make any headway this year on that issue. "Some issues seem to simply not be on the table for discussion, which is unfortunate," he said.

Finally, Woodward campaigned on a slew of environmental initiatives. Those included reviving the Midd CUPPS, which provides reusable plastic mugs for incoming first-years, improving the Dish Revovery System (DRS) and working to implement the Carbon Reduction Initiative (CRI).

"I'm quite happy to say that CUPPS will be continuing, though to be honest, it has nothing to do with me. It was simply worked out within the administration." The DRS, however, saw its doom at the end of last Winter Term when Matthew Biette, director of Dining Services, decided it had become an extended room service for students, and pulled the plug.

"The DRS issue was more complex than I had originally anticipated and incredibly frustrating. They were failures on all sides and I don't feel that all parties involved invested what was necessary to make it work, as a consequence, the program had to be dismantled," said Woodward.

Progress on the implementation of the CRI has trudged along — Farrel Vending, which manages the vending machines across campus, installed vending misers on all refrigerated vending machines on-campus to reduce energy consumption. There is also a possibility that one of the antiquated boilers in the service building will be replaced with "biomass boilers," which release less carbon when used.

Woodward's platform in his re-election campaign does contain some leftovers from last year — most notably a renewed pledge to increase the presence of student, public art on the campus.Woodward says now that while the Council was able to make progress on a number of his campaign promises, his platform for next year has also been molded by a new sense of what can be achieved in his position. "I feel I now have a better sense of what is possible and what will only turn into epic battles, he said. "More than anything, I've learned how difficult it is to plan more than a few weeks in advance in the dynamic that is the Middlebury administration."

Symposium very worth a sunny day indoors

This past weekend I attended the Idea of Jerusalem Symposium held at Middlebury College from April 15-17. I have to embarrassingly admit that I have never participated in an academic conference of this caliber so I might be coming from a completely inexperienced vantage point which would then make my observations a bit naïve. Nonetheless, I feel compelled to make them.

On Saturday a paper was presented by Professor Bernard Wasserstein — an extremely well-established and renowned scholar on the "walls" of Jerusalem — that drew connections between the Western Wall, the walls of the Old City, the walls that mark the different quarters within the Old City, as well as the current "security" wall being built by the Israeli government. Professor Wasserstein concluded his paper by appropriately quoting Robert Frost,

"Before I built a wall I'd ask to know What I was walling in or walling out, And to whom I was like to give offence. Something there is that doesn't love a wall, That wants it down." — Mending Wall, 1915

Professor Wasserstein expressed his disapproval for the wall and the immense repercussions that will and are already being wrought by it. During the discussion period another professor challenged his evidence and for presenting his values and personal opinions on the issue — the building of the wall, saying that they had no place in an "academic" conference.

Despite the beautiful weather I would not have chosen to spend my weekend elsewhere.

The room was awash with tension. Professor Wasserstein listened and then responded quite powerfully. He backed up his knowledge with three books that he has written on the issue and asserted that his values had every right to be involved in his academic pursuits; he did not see them as separate entities. I want to applaud Professor Wasserstein's paper and response. Being honest and direct with one's opinions with respect to one's research is a responsibility that the academia needs to take more seriously — especially in times when knowledge and information are being dangerously manipulated.

On Saturday evening, Sari Nusseibeh, President of Al-Quds University in Jerusalem spoke. Professor Nusseibeh addressed the prospects of peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with respect to the city of Jerusalem. It was immediately clear that this man's fame and standing were well earned. His presence was soothing in a spiritual way that is hard for me to articulate.

Professor Nusseibeh's voice, mannerisms and message were all in some other dimension that I have never experienced. He was absolutely striking. He emphasized that his personal life was extremely relevant and he needed to share it with us in order to be able to express his opinions. He spoke about his triple identity as Palestinian, Jordanian and as a Jerusamalite and how this infuriated him for so long but that he had found some way of dealing with it. Professor Nusseibeh emphasized the need for people in this conflict to remember their humanity and that his hope lied in people's honesty, directness and commitment to building a future together because, really, that is all we have.

He said that people can disagree on the present but that they won't necessarily disagree on the future. This seemingly simple comment is filled with the depth that epitomized his talk. Professor Nusseibeh clearly has an academic background with degrees in political science, economics and philosophy but this did not prevent him from sharing personal details about his life and expressing his values. He had nothing to prove. I was transformed as I listened to him. Professor Nusseibeh told a student who asked about how Israelis and Palestinians were ever going to build a future together with a wall disastrously separating them. He said that the power was in each and every one of us — we are the muscles of our own destiny and we need to believe that and not wait for some leader to take us to a better place. After Professor Nusseibeh was done talking I went up to him to thank him for inspiring me and I shook his hand and lost the ability to talk, I think he asked me where I was from but I was too struck to remember. I walked outside and saw Professor Nusseibeh surrounded by young people, Middlebury College students, smoking cigarettes and talking. It was a beautiful sight. This man was so unpretentious and it contrasted the earlier tension that had arisen from an academic telling another academic to leave his values at the door. As Barbara Streisand tells Robert Redford in "The Way We Were," "People *are* their values." I want to thank Professors Tamar Mayer and Suleiman Mourad for organizing a truly impressive, challenging and, for me, transformative conference. Despite the beautiful weather I would not have chosen to spend my weekend elsewhere.

STEPHANIE MORALES '05
A WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES MAJOR
FROM REGO PARK, N.Y.

POSSE retreat is a success on all accounts

On April 1, over 80 Middlebury students filed onto two buses to spend the weekend at a resort for something called a POSSE Plus Retreat. For those who didn't know what a retreat entailed or even what POSSE Plus meant, the two-hour ride to Lake Morey was spent clarifying rumors. If POSSE isn't a gang, what is it? If a POSSE Plus Retreat doesn't just address issues with racism, what does it address? If POSSE is exclusive, why am *I* here?

First-year POSSE Scholar Brian Pacheco explained briefly in between naps. "POSSE is a scholarship program for exceptional students and leaders from urban public schools. POSSE Plus or POSSE Plus People for alliteration, are the students who go on this retreat that are not in POSSE," said Brian to the giggling bus. "And you were invited to this retreat because a POSSE scholar respects and wants to hear your opinions about issues affecting Middlebury."

The specifics of the retreat were left semi-mysterious until its start. Most only knew the snazzy topic from reading their invitation — **Get up! Stand up! Apathy Empathy and Activism at Middlebury College**. The topic was designed by POSSE scholars in response to a growing controversy at Middlebury over what is the most appropriate reaction to offensive incidents on campus. At an all-POSSE meeting, they discussed specific controversial incidents such as contentious parties themed "Cowboys and Indians," and "CEO's and Executive Hoes," as well as the reactions these incidents elicited such as demonstrations, discussions and publications in *The Middlebury Campus*.

Bigger questions arose about the dynamics of Middlebury's social atmosphere. Why are potentially offensive events created and tolerated or not? Is the Middlebury community apathetic? Does Middlebury repress or encourage activism? What are the effective means of communication and mobilization on campus? How can students choose which issues to ignore? Where can a student's voice be heard? Do all students have a responsibility to take action? Does activism even make a difference?

The retreat experience is different for each individual depending upon the amount of time invested in socializing, playing, debating or reflecting.

The POSSE Foundation staff hoped through the discussions, honest dialogues, fun games, intense deliberations and unique exercises planned for the retreat, that the Middlebury students and faculty in attendance would uncover new insights, tactics of activism and inspiration to contribute to the Middlebury community. It comes as no surprise that many returned claiming they had "an entirely new perspective on the power of an individual at Middlebury and in society," as first-year Lemar Clarke recounted. Charzetta Nixon, a junior POSSE scholar who, although she attends the POSSE Plus Retreat every year, still found the retreat to be life-changing. She said, "The retreat was a wonderful way for me to reflect on what I stand for and permitted me to see that I do not have to feel guilty about being an artist and not a grass roots revolutionary. I realized that through my art I can make a stance and affect change." Faculty responses were equally approving. Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Roger Sandwick echoed this enthusiasm, stating, "It was great fun and I learned a tremendous amount about POSSE, Middlebury students, Middlebury College life and myself. I would say in the three years I've been at Middlebury, the retreat was perhaps the most worthwhile event I've attended."

Microlab, arguably one of the most mind-blowing exercises, entailed a small discussion circle of about six members of a group being enclosed by a larger circle of people. While an honest dialogue amongst the members of some of the most marginalized groups on campus took place in the small circle, everyone else listened silently.

Homosexuals, athletes, conservatives and feminists groups that are deeply affected by stereotypes prejudices and misrepresentation, answered questions freely and had a chance to be heard. "I'd never heard an intelligent conservative viewpoint before — when Bush speaks I just boo or change the channel. I'm glad I was forced to really listen. It's changed the way I view other people and the way I view myself," said first-year Aaron Gensler. First-year POSSE Scholar Merisha Enoe was also moved, commenting, "Witnessing the groups interact without a condemning voice — such a great way of learning — just listening."

However, there was also plenty of time for those who were interested in engaging in some serious discussions. "I finally got a chance to address those so-called sketchy issues. We were an intellectual community at its finest, discussing how our identities shape who we are and what we fight for," declared sophomore POSSE scholar ReNard Rogers who continued, saying, "I have a better understanding of how issues with gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, class and privilege divide a community." Senior POSSE Scholar Lauren Curatolo, after a riveting game of butt shuffle, concluded, "Our fire is now burning so brightly that it will, I am sure, light up this campus and the world."

The retreat experience is different for each individual depending upon the amount of time one invests in socializing, playing, debating or reflecting. A tight schedule of thought provoking workshops, three-course meals and discussions kept the POSSE Plusers engaged and excited. First-year POSSE scholar Aifuwa Ehigiator, for one, left with a new sense of community. "The retreat came at a great time when I needed a break from Midd and needed some POSSE love. The most important thing the retreat did was making me understand that I am loved by many and appreciated by even more," she said.

ANGELICA MARIA TOWNE '08
AN UNDECLARED MAJOR
FROM NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

www.middleburycampus.com

make it your homepage

refuse to choose®:

RECLAIMING FEMINISM

Middlebury College

Wednesday, April 27, 2005
4:30 PM
McCardell Bicentennial Hall, Room #216

Lecture and Q&A
Reception to follow

Sponsored by
Middlebury Students for Life

SALLY A. WINN

Vice President
Feminists for Life of America

FEMINISTS FOR LIFE OF AMERICA

Refuse to Choose® • Women Deserve Better®

feministsforlife.org

features

Visibility Week opens eyes & minds

Annual awareness week culminates in drag ball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Office of Institutional Diversity — making the event one of the more engaging for Graf.

"The Day of Silence was interesting because it spawned controversy," he said. "We had discussions in Carr Hall … isn't silencing people yet again instead of pointing towards silence? It was a good discussion. It got people thinking."

On Thursday, MOQA hosted a "fishbowl discussion" called "The Lavender Curtain: The Portrayal of Gays and Lesbians in Film and Television."

The panel, consisting of both professors and students, examined television shows such as "Will & Grace," "Queer as Folk" and "Philadelphia."

The discussion was then opened up to audience questions and comments.

The highlight of the week, however, was the Drag Ball hosted in Coltrane Lounge on Saturday night.

According to one member, MOQA tries to do at least one drag event every year, mainly because the "fun event" tends to draw large crowds. More importantly, the event fosters understanding and dialogue.

"Getting people to dress in drag hopefully tries to make people more comfortable with talking about and acknowledging queer issues," said Tamara Vatnick '07, who, along with Traverse, coordinated the Drag Ball.

According to Vatnick, the ball — which was one of the last parties going on Saturday night on campus — was a "rockin' party with a lot of very sexy drag kings and queens."

For Ramsdell, one of the most remarkable moments of the week followed the Saturday Drag Ball. "I ended up in a CRA's room, in drag," he said, "hanging out with a bunch of straight freshmen and sophomore guys — it was a very memorable experience, especially since it took some of them a while to notice I was wearing make-up and a dress."

The success of Saturday night's ball capped off a week of activities deemed an overall success in the eyes of MOQA members and Visibility Week organizers.

"I feel like the week was definitely a success," said Vatnick. "The point is to make a queer presence felt and I think we accomplished that to some extent."

According to Vatnick, Visibility Week's success could have been amplified with more publicity. "I would have liked to see more people participating in the Day of Silence," she said. "A lot of people who saw me that day said they didn't even know about it until that morning. It would be really powerful if a large portion of the campus was silent for one day."

Traverse also applauded the week's events, but noted that Visibilty Week shed light on the challenges of increasing acceptance and understanding on campus.

"I think we did a great job of trying to reach our goals," he said, "but in doing so we realized that our goals cannot be met in just one week of events.

Educating the Middlebury community about queer issues will forever be an ongoing challenge for MOQA and its allies, but a challenge we will never give up on."

Still, the well-attended events were tempered, for some, by less-than-ideal experiences.

While Ramsdell's week was largely positive, the week held its fair share of difficulties, amplifying problems of tolerance that some students experience every day.

Ramsdell declared, "I just want to put it out there that not everyone on this campus is as accepting, or even as tolerant, of issues that deal with homosexuality as I think Middlebury students should be."

2005 Visibility Week Events

April 11: Cookie and Ribbon distribution in Ross and Atwater Dining Halls.

April 13: National Day of Silence.

April 14: MOQA-hosted discussion entitled "The Lavender Curtain: the Portrayal of Gays and Lesbians in Film and Television."

April 16: Saturday Night Drag Ball.

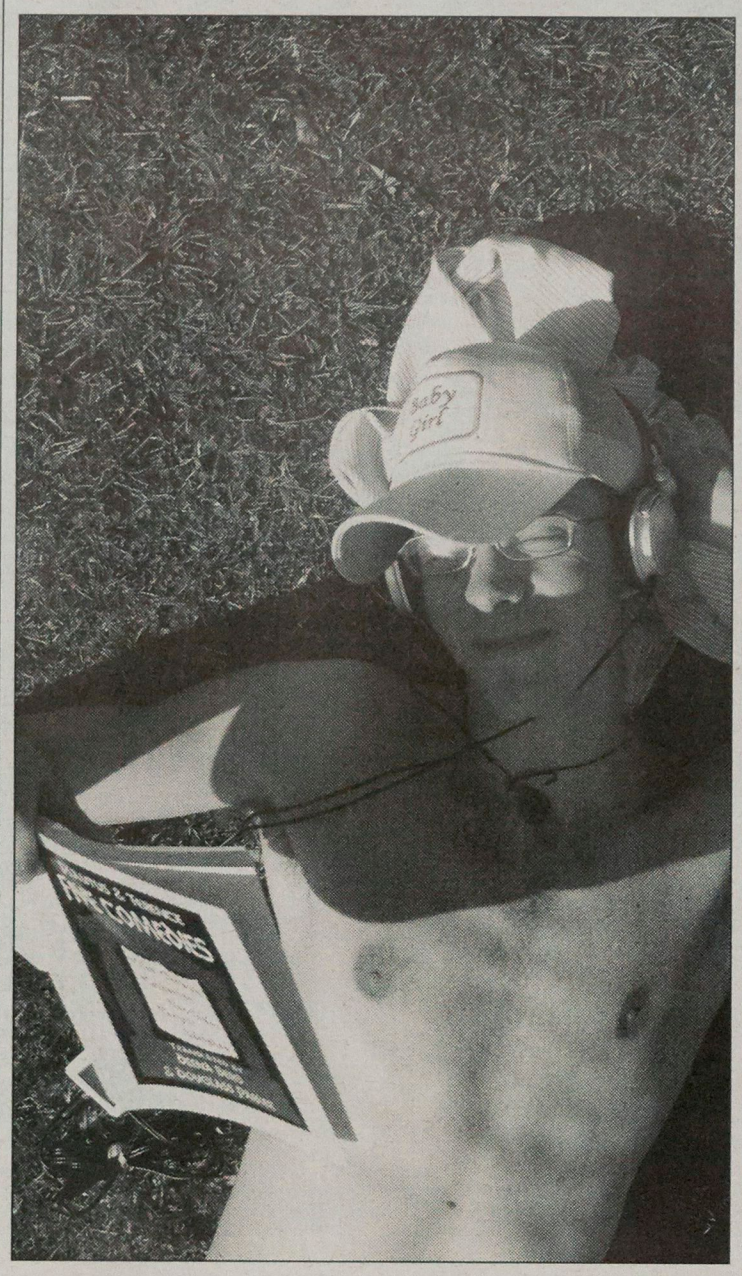
— Sponsored by MOQA and its allies.

19
THE SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR
WHY IS YOUR MAILBOX OVER ITS SIZE LIMIT?

20
FASHION WEEK AT MIDD
STUDENTS STRUT THEIR STUFF DOWN THE AAA SPONSORED CATWALK

21
JERUSALEM SYMPOSIUM
EXPLORING THE ROLE OF JERUSALEM IN MAJOR RELIGIONS

STUD-YING.



Ari Joseph

Taking advantage of the weather, Midd-kid Max Jones '05 takes to the lawn to study on the first exceptionally warm day of the year.

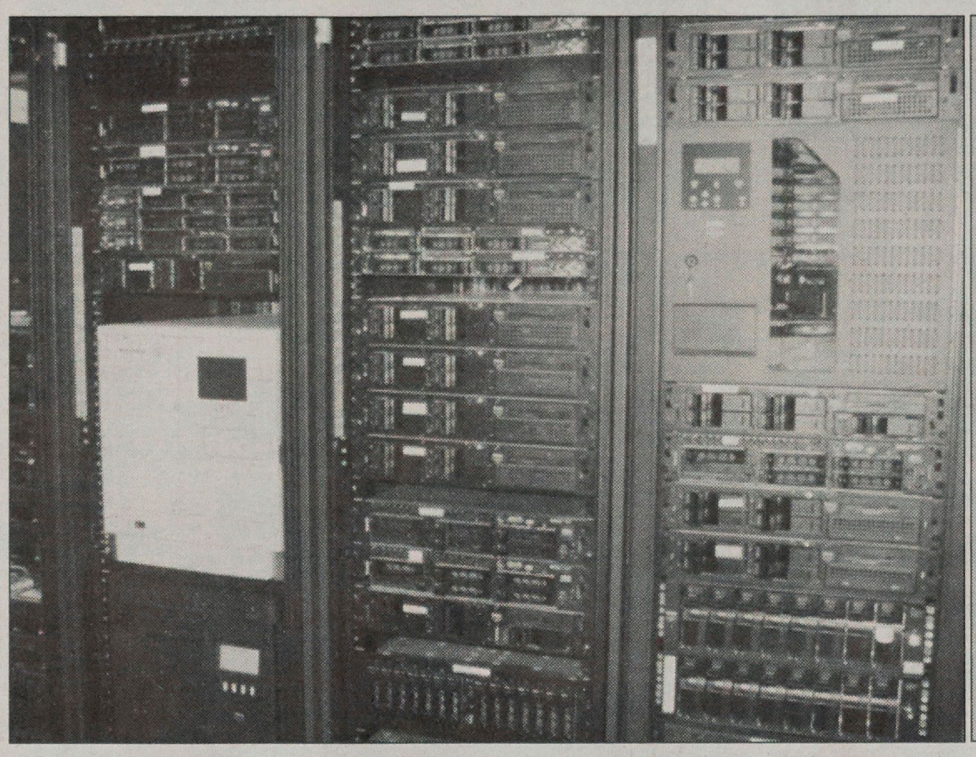
WINNERS & LOSERS

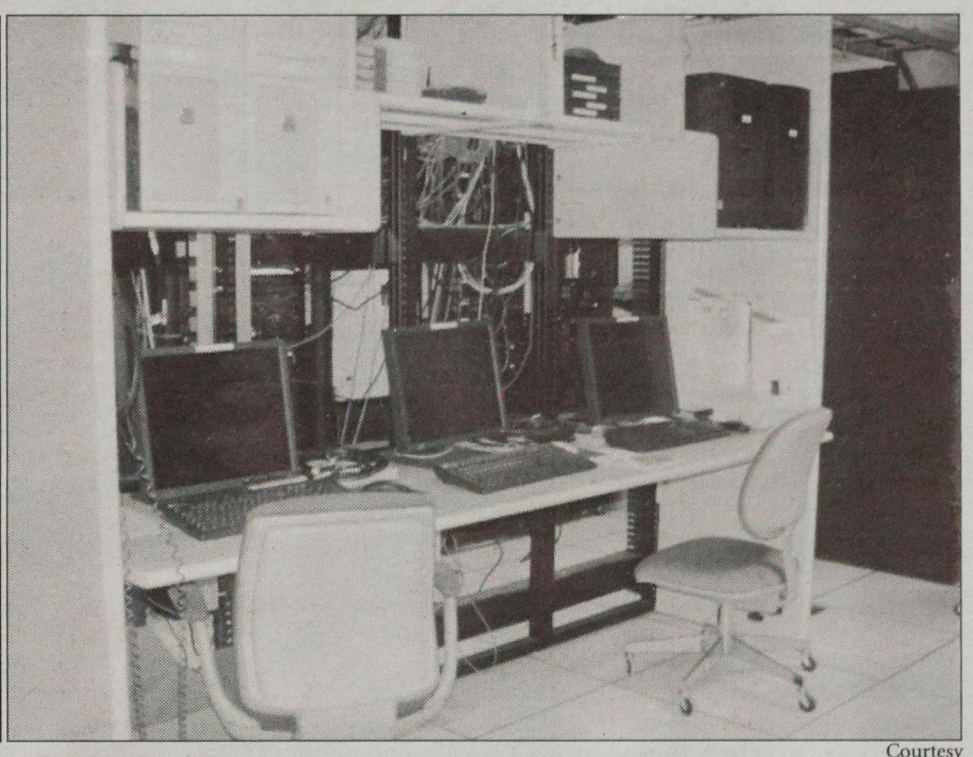
What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

CAMPUS STAFF PARTY	TAVERN SEMI-FORMAL
The Electric Shocker game, the best friend/roommate-off, dancing all night, kflagg, being outside the office...amazing. You wish you were there.	Drinking champange out of bottles while munching on Green Peppers take-out doesn't make something semi-formal.
BLUE SKIES AND SUNSHINE	VERMONT WEATHER
Battell Beach is the place to be lately with the finally spring-like weather. But please, girls, 65 degrees is still a little cold for bikinis.	You know it's too good to last. Don't put away your boots yet.
CALLING PEOPLE BY THEIR E-MAIL NAMES	PEOPLE WHO HAVE 8-LETTER LAST NAMES
Just ask kflagg and tdresche about why calling people by their Middlebury e-mail names is such a winner. It's what all the cool kids are doing.	Say, for example, you have the name Caroline Stauffer — your e-mail address ends up being cstauffe. Sad, so sad.

The System Administrator — a mystery no longer

Behind the ubiquitous e-mails lies a dedicated staff that keeps Midd running smoothly





Courtesy

Who ever knew that the basement of Voter is filled with switchboards and screens, buttons and bleeping lights, all for the benefit of our security and to keep our mail box size in check?

By Lisie Mehlman
Features Editor

At approximately 12:01 a.m. each night, I — like many other Middlebury students — receive an e-mail from the System Administrator informing me that my "mailbox is over its size limit." While this monotonous, one-sided e-mail relationship I have developed with the System Administrator is less romantic than say, the correspondence between Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks' characters in "You've Got Mail," it amuses me nonetheless. Imagine my delight then, when I found out that, in fact, there lies a man behind the mystery mandates. Actually, five men.

Yep, in what seems something like an alternate universe — the basement of Voter Hall — Tom Cutter, director of Systems and Network Services; Rick James, Unix systems administrator; Howie McCausland, director of Network Designs and Operations; Mark Pyfrom, systems programmer and Mike Halsall, system administrator, oversee the computer systems and network servers that help the College run smoothly. These five System Administrators oversee all the networks that make life for students and faculty so easy, from Tigercat to e-mail servers to BannerWeb.

Halsall volunteered to give me a tour on behalf of all the System Administrators. On Sunday evening when I met him at Voter, he was sporting a black t-shirt that had an image of R2D2 on it ("I thought it was cool," he explained) and he reminded me a little bit of Wayne Campbell from "Wayne's World," only instead of using phrases like "party on" or whatever it is that Wayne said, Halsall threw around words like "terabytes" and other computer lingo I can't report on because I can't spell the big words.

On my tour of the cluster of offices and server rooms that Halsall referred to as "our own little island," I got to see the machines where student and faculty e-mail come from, where our schedules are held, where payrolls are stored and even the server that gets rid of Spam. Halsall spoke highly of the camaraderie he shares with his co-System Administrators on the island. "There is such a cool atmosphere down here. It is a very good place to work," he said. He works from 3 p.m. until 11 p.m., usually "jamming" to music while he works. However, it was hard to decipher his feelings about the country and classic rock his boss plays most of the time.

What was most clear, however, was the pride Halsall takes in his work. "It's an interesting chair to sit in, an interesting job to do, because here, with a couple of key strokes, you can take down the whole network. There's a great responsibility. But I am providing a service, when it comes down to it, which is nice. Making sure everything is running smoothly — that is where the real pride is taken," he explained.

After working at places like IBM and Atlantic Bell, Halsall went back to school and earned his degree in computer engineering. "Corporate America sucks," he said. "Academia's where it's at." He continued, "Corporate America does not respect its employees' privacy. Here [at Middlebury] we have a strict privacy policy. We must receive explicit permission before we troubleshoot problems on students' computers. Policies like that are absolutely imperative."

Halsall went on to explain that it is the privacy academic institutions provide that is the source of one of the biggest challenges they face. "Educational institutions are notoriously insecure. One half of the system is totally controlled, but the other half is under no control, because schools do not dictate to students what they may and may not have on their computers." In fact, in the past few weeks, several institutions have actually been hacked into. Considering that the servers at Middlebury hold students' social security numbers next to their name, identity theft is a real concern. It is the job of all the System Administrators to help to make the networks as secure as possible.

But even with all this work, Halsall still has fun on "the island." He admitted to talking to the servers and computers — "I mean, not like you talk to a pet, but, like everyone gets pissed at their computer. Each one has its own personality."

Perhaps the most entertaining part of the tour, however, was becoming privy to the creativity that goes behind naming the networks. We all know that Panther and Tigercat exist, but I learned that, a while back, the System Administrators had finally run out of cat names and had moved on to airplanes. I particularly enjoyed learning that Halsall named a server "Cirrus" because it hosts an application called "Cumulus." There were also many servers named after elements from Greek mythology. I wish I could go into more specifics, but, as Halsall explained, "When running a network, you don't want to give out more information than is needed for usability (say, the name of Tigercat) — and even though that's [leaning] a tad toward what's called security through obscurity, which is a horrible practice that can't be relied upon — you don't want to give more information than is necessary, because it gives anyone trying to break into your network targets to look at first."

At the end of the tour, Halsall addressed the original pressing issue — the e-mails every night at 12:01 a.m. "They are sent because disc space costs money," he said. "If everyone is loading up their mailboxes, that's a huge financial drain on the school." And, although he once told a gullible student that all he does all day is send out those e-mails to people telling them their mailboxes were full, in fact, the emails are sent automatically (making my imagined relationship with the System Administrator even less personal than I ever could have ever imagined). But at least now I know who's behind them.

PANTHER TOP 10

What music makes the Middlebury Charts? Here are the weekly top Napster downloads on campus.

1. **The Killers — Mr. Brightside**
2. **Dixie Chicks — There's Your Trouble**
3. **Mariah Carey — Shake it Off**
4. **Howie Day — Collide**
5. **Kelly Clarkson — Breakaway**
6. **Jack Johnson — Better Together**
7. **Jack Johnson — Never Know**
8. **Kelis — Trick Me**
9. **Maroon 5 — Sunday Morning**
10. **Green Day — Boulevard of Broken Dreams**

World Briefs

— By Caroline Vial

Pride-Stricken?

One pair of shoes was enough to risk 450 million euros of foreign aid to one of the poorest countries in the world. The government of Papua, New Guinea recently refused Australia's financial assistance, its most important financial provider. The main motive being: New Guinea's Prime Minister Michael Somare was obliged to take his shoes off while traveling at the Brisbane airport. Seen as a mere attempt to "poke fun," the Papua-New-Guineans marched into the streets of the capital, Port Moresby, to cry out their indignation. Authorities are demanding apologies in due form and John Howard, the Australian Prime Minister, remains firm in his position. At the very least, he offered a private security check to Michael Somare during his next trip.

— *Financial Times*, London

Machos, Adios!

Spain's new Civil Code will now be obligating men to "share domestic chores," announced El Pais. This new law is to appear in all marriage contracts. Refusing to change the baby's diapers could now a weighing argument in Spanish divorce proceedings. A spouse with a stubborn attitude towards domestic chores could now face losing the custody of their children. In a country where 40 percent of men never raise a finger at home, here is a reform that might lead to disorder.

— *Courrier International*, Paris

Robots on Camels

The use of young jockeys in dromedary races is now prohibited in the United Arab Emirates and finding light-weights is not a "sinecure," writes the *Gulf News Online*, in reference to the custom Mediterranean napping. Thankfully, there is the robot jockey. The first prototype of a mechanical rider was tested with success in Abu Dhabi. The light-weight jockey is distance-controlled with a device directly placed onto the dromedary's back. Robot jockeys will make their debut next season on the race course — where the law forbidding the cinching of children to dromedaries is rarely enforced.

— *Courrier International*, Paris

Do you "Yagoohoogle"?

Between Yahoo! and Google, where does your heart lean? No problem, now you can use both at once: just click onto Yagoohoogle. Asgeir Nilsen from Norway, combined the Web's two main search engines: Google appears on the left side of the screen and on the right side, Yahoo. The most popular search engine, Google, does a vast search, but sometimes gives useless results. Yahoo filters so much information that it can mask important results. With http://yagoohoogle.com — provided you don't mess up the spelling — no more hesitating

— *Der Spiegel*, Hamburg

BY MATT KUNZWEILER

If you're like me, the time you most enjoy at Middlebury is the time you're unconscious. I often have a good time while I'm awake, alert and engaged — but when I'm asleep, I'm in a guaranteed state of bliss. I love it. I love it so much that I nap while I'm supposed to be in class, while I'm in class, in the library, at the Grille, at my desk, on my couch, in the shower, on the john.

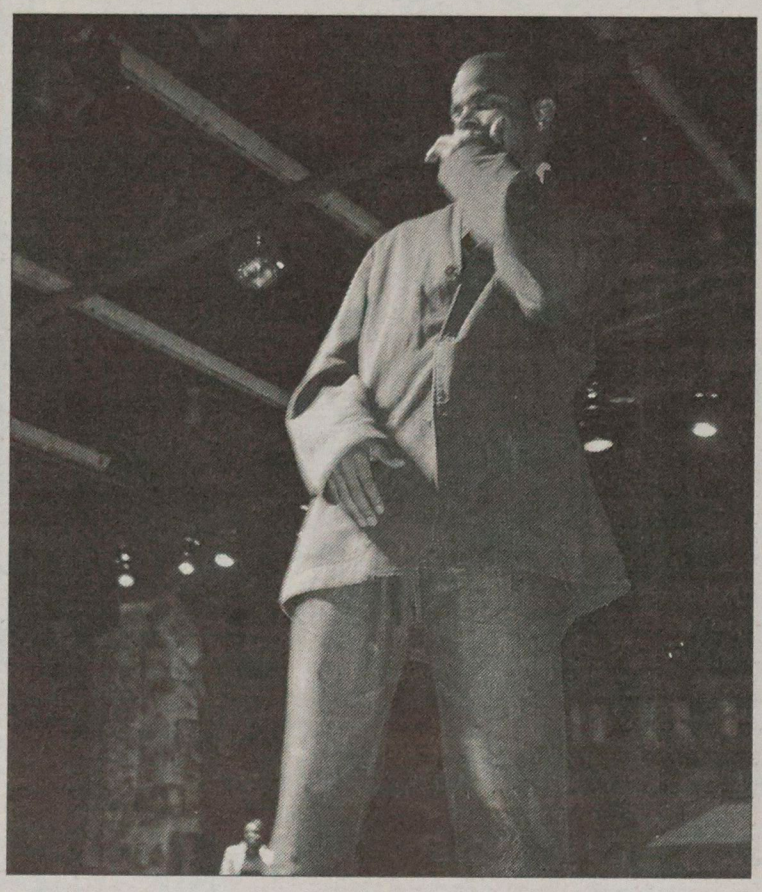
But maybe there's something disturbing about the fact that I enjoy being asleep more than being awake. I'm 21-years-old, in my so-called prime, a college student. I have friends, a car, gas money, opportunity, nothing holding me back, etc. But I'd much rather be asleep, oblivious to everything that's going for me — even if it means sleeping on my shoddy little dorm room mattress that has been uncomfortably cratered by decades of drunken sex dents.

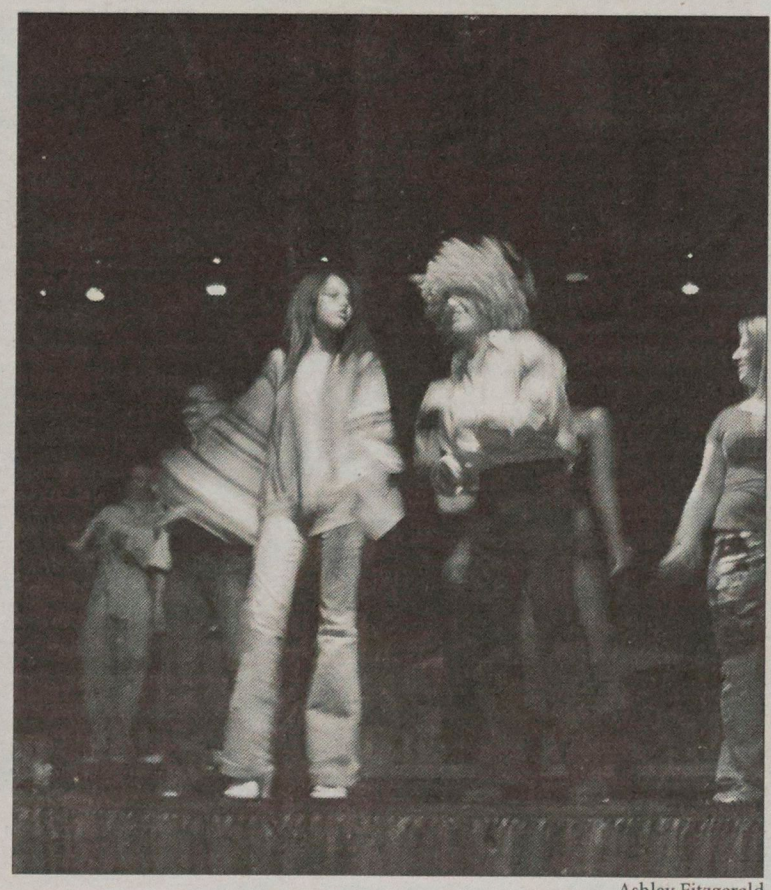
The problem with sport napping (that's what I like to call it) is that I become completely useless while awake. The best sport nappers know that during their waking hours they must stay as inactive as possible, keeping a low heart rate and minimal awareness. That way, whenever there's an opportunity to fall asleep, they're already halfway there. I spend most of my day in this state of semi-consciousness. I mumble, squint, drag my feet and, in general, come across as being socially inept. I have trouble making my way through the brightly lit dining hall, I forget silverware, over-toast my cinno-raise bagel, realize my fly is unzipped and then, for almost five minutes, I stand like an idiot in the middle of everything, scanning the room for a secluded place to sit, a place where my food and I will not be accosted by perky, outgoing people. The chipper Middkids are my enemies. They just don't understand. They mean well, and I can appreciate this. But when they ask me how my week has been going and I don't even know what day of the week it is, this confuses me, sets me on edge, raises my heart rate and sets me another step away from sleep. If you really want to know how my week is going, shoot me an e-mail and I'll get back to you when I have the time and motivation. Until then, settle down.

But this is the time of year when greed sleeping becomes difficult. Professors who care nothing about me and my goal of perfect inertness assign time-consuming final projects, papers and presentations (which, by the way, teach me nothing). Still, I'm amazed how well I can sleep when I have grotesque amounts of work hanging over my head. I can nap for six solid hours the day before I have a major research paper due. Sleep is my only refuge from the guilt of laziness. It's the perfect answer.

A friend once told me that I'm "just practicin' for the grave." That comment raises some very profound existential questions, none of which I plan on answering in a column as obnoxiously cutesy and half-ass as this one. I'll try harder next week.

AAA shows off its fashion sense





Ashley Fitzgerald

The AAA put on a heated spring fashion show last Friday, in which they showcased some of the many different Middlebury styles, such as "Urban Meets Fifth Avenue" and "Wicked Street Wear."

By Caitlin Taylor
Staff Writer

On Friday April 15, the African American Alliance (AAA) Fashion Show transformed McCullough Social Space into an urban center. The walls were littered with newspapers, the lights were dim and a backdrop depicting a "Music Hall" with a sign advertising"Live Shows Daily" hung behind the stage. Colorful graffiti was scrawled across the newspapers with messages such as "NY Express" and "F— the World." To complete the scene, hip-hop beats were throbbing through the speakers on either side of the newly created city-center. An influx of people scrambled to find seats. As Alexis Zain '05 took center stage to introduce the show, the crowd went wild.

The annual show, directed by Zain, took on a city theme this year and was conseqently appropriately named "Faces of the City: Past, Present and Future Face of Urban Fashion." When asked about the décor, Zain explained, "the theme was the city and whatever inspiration [the choreographers] got from that they put forth. The newspaper resembles not just the trash in the city, but the beauty of the city, and what you can do with paper." By suggesting a $1 donation, the fashion show raised money for the Four Angels Award Fund, established in honor of four women of color who died in a car accident six years ago. Each year, Middlebury College presents the award to one sophomore woman of color who has made an impact on the Middlebury Community by demonstrating leadership and expressing some of the qualities that the four women embodied.

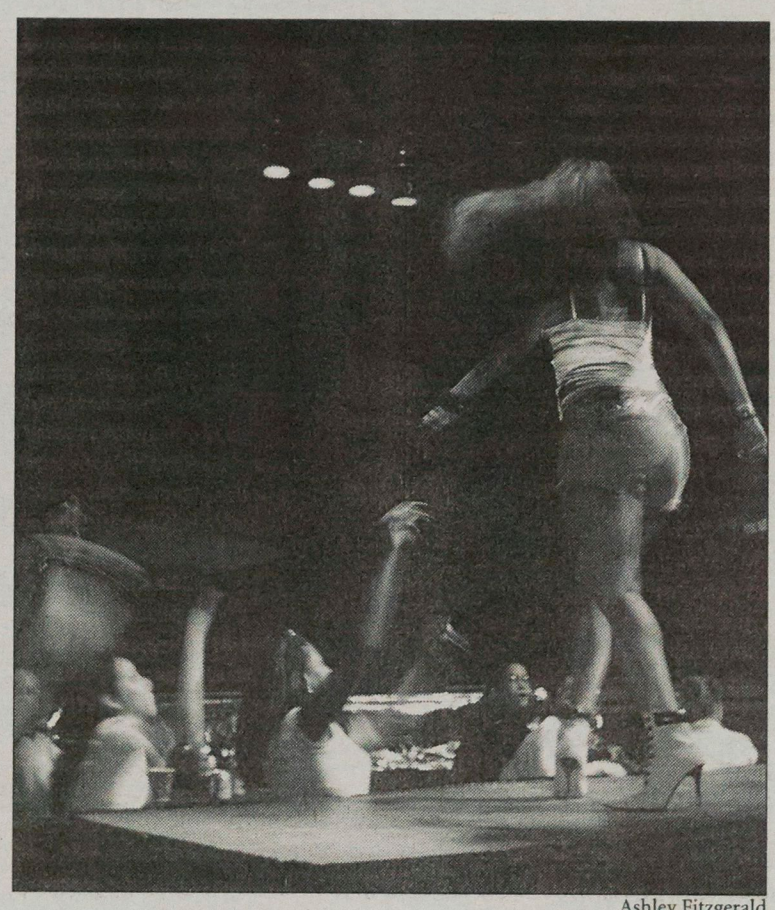
The show, which took about two weeks to plan, accepted everyone who wanted to participate in any of seven different fashion categories. The groups included "Grown and Sexy," "Urban meets Fifth Avenue," "Wicked Street Wear," "Take you Back," "Middlebury's Secret," "Encore: Future Fashion" and "Dance Hall Explosion." Each category was choreographed as an individual piece with various musical melodies blasting through the speakers.

The first couples that came onto the stage were part of the "Grown and Sexy" group. They were dressed in formal wear ranging from tight black dresses to elegant silk gowns on the women and black suits on the men. All of the couples strutted onto the runway and walked up and down the "T," doing twists and turns to show all off their gorgeous outfits. "Pop" exuded classiness in the "Grown and Sexy" category by strutting along the runway in his all-white jacket and pantsuit.

In the group that followed, the "Urban Meets Fifth Avenue" models were dressed in baggier clothing and looked more casual in their baseball caps, sneakers, fitted blazers and collared shirts. These models, and the models in the next few groups, spent much of their runway time getting the crowd excited. The cheers and shouts of encouragement that burst out of the audience emanated energy towards the stage. In "Take you Back," the music changed drastically from hip-hop to "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun." The music was accompanied by about 10 girls who ran out onto the stage in various forms of 80's dress including spandex, leotards, colorful streamers, beads and arm and leg warmers.

The most shocking moment of the fashion show came when the models of "Middlebury's Secret" emerged on the stage. These girls were scantily clad in high heels, corset tops, thongs, underwear, bras and various other forms of revealing lingerie.

The next two acts included "Future Fashion," with models dressed in tinfoil, newspaper, tape and other recyclable outfits and "Dance Hall Explosion," an act that seemed to imitate a Jamaican club scene. At the end of the show, all of the models burst onto the stage and the audience greeted them with an enthusiastic applause.



Ashley Fitzgerald

Runway performances such as "Dance Hall Explosion," "Encore Future Fashion" and, especially, "Middlebury's Secret," set some fire to the stage.

Midd contemplates "The Idea of Jerusalem"

By Lauren Armstrong
Staff Writer

The Idea of Jerusalem Symposium commenced on Friday, April 15 in Mead Chapel. Opening remarks by Middlebury staff and faculty introduced the keynote speaker Francis E. Peters, professor of History, Religion and Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at New York University. His address entitled "One City, One God, Three Faiths," provided the audience with information on the conflict over the city of Jerusalem between Jews, Christians and Muslims. The significance of Jerusalem in the past and present and its meaning to these three cultures was the real focus of the symposium.

Benches in Mead Chapel were filled as several professors and many classes from the political science, history and geography departments attended. Allison Stanger, professor of political science and director of the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs at Middlebury, commented on the value of this "rich and meaningful program and [its] timely theme." Tamar Mayer, professor of geography, expressed her hope that the symposium would allow all those involved to "move beyond the headlines and into fruitful discussion."

"Frank Peters is an authoritative voice on the events that transpire within the Middle East." — Jimmy Butcher '08

Jimmy Butcher '08 spoke of the relevance of the symposium to his class on geopolitics of the Middle East. "One of the objectives of our class is to develop an understanding of the Middle East. Focusing on Jerusalem, which is in many ways a microcosm of the Middle East, provides us with an opportunity to extract the specifics related to the city and apply that information to the Middle East as a whole," he said. "Also, the city is such a hot spot that the ramifications of any event occurring within the city's walls will be felt throughout the Middle East.

Peters' presentation was punctuated by small snippets of well-appreciated humor that made allusions to the Democratic Convention, athletes on steroids and Babe Ruth. His presentation proved to be a good starting point for the Idea of Jerusalem Symposium as he provided the audience with a historical overview that began with the heretics, pagans and Crusades and moved through the centuries to the present. He focused on the basic questions necessary to jumpstart the discussion, such as "Why is Jerusalem a glittering prize? Is it such a glittering prize?"

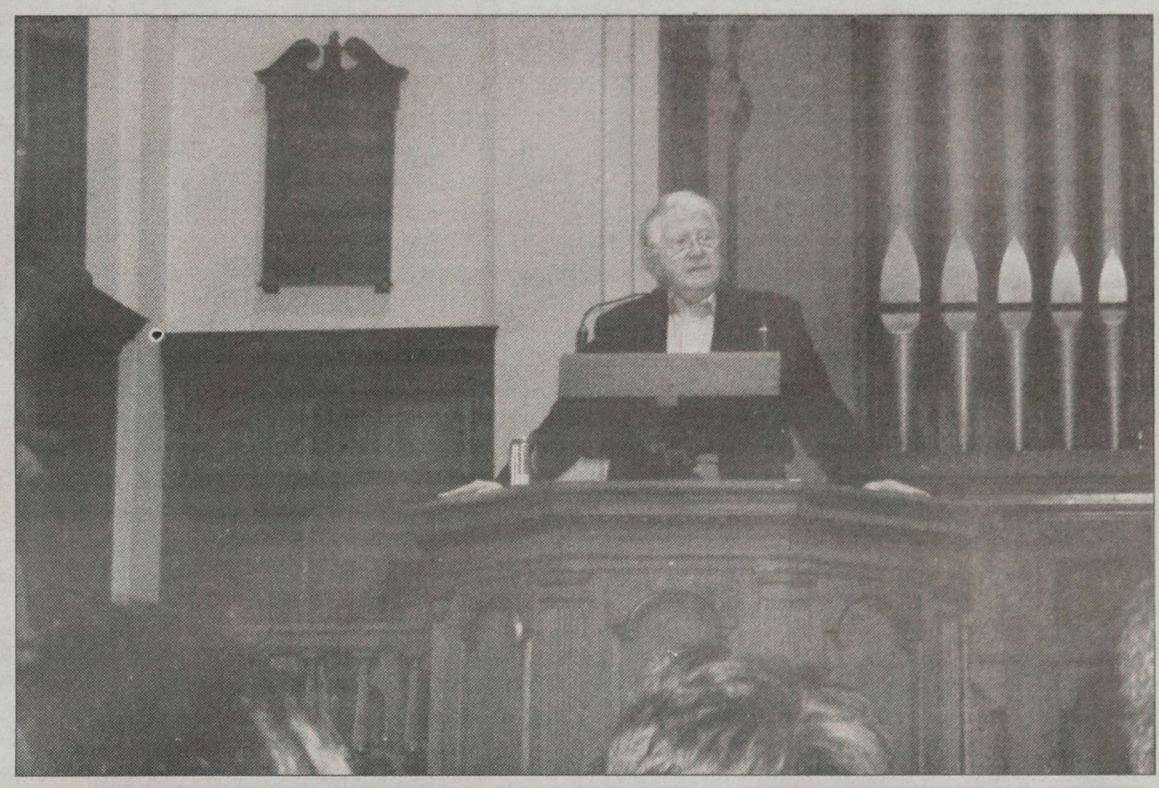
Izzy Marshall '07 said about the presentation, "He helped us recognize the long-standing ideological differences between the three religions, so we have a better understanding of why there is conflict in Jerusalem today." Peters explained how the geographical area is a great focus of interest for these three popular beliefs, as they are bounded together by common origins. The dispute has turned into a Holy War and the use of force is legitimized by the fact that it is used in the name of religion.

But Peters demonstrated such familiarity and expertise that his brief overview of the struggle left some students puzzled. Erika Norman '06 commented on the informality of Peters' talk as he moved quickly from one aspect of the conflict to the next. "I enjoyed the jokes, which kept things interesting, but I thought that he could have been better organized. I never got a sense of what question or problem he was trying to address," she said.

Still, Butcher said that he would attend more symposium events as he was impressed with Peters' knowledge of the subject of Jerusalem. "Frank Peters is an authoritative voice on the events that transpire within the Middle East. His remarks provided a foundation on which to begin the examination of Jerusalem. He was a good choice to open the symposium," Butcher said. "His remarks were profound but, what was even more noticeable was his passion for the Middle East."

Other students shared Butcher's positive impression of the event and were impressed by the breadth and depth of Peters' understanding of Jerusalem.

Marshall noted, "Peters had a challenging job — to summarize the historical, religious and political disagreements between the three monotheistic religions that 'have been at it for a long time' in Jerusalem. And frankly, I think he did a good job. I appreciated his ability to include funny remarks while still achieving an objective. It was refreshing to crack a smile while receiving a sensitive understanding of the historic and current conflict in Jerusalem."



Ari Joseph

NYU Professor F.E. Peters lectured last Friday in Mead Chapel and spectators at Redfield Proctor on Saturday.

Students exchange Russian and Chechen experiences

Are they struggling for their independence or fighting against terrorism?

On Tuesday, April 12, students and faculty gathered in the Robert A. Jones '59 conference room for a discussion of the conflict in Chechnya. The event was entitled "Struggle for Independence or War on Terrorism?: The Example of Russia and Chechnya," and featured Beslan Visambiev '08 and Julia Koloziejczyk '05 as representatives from Chechnya and Russia, respectively.

The student-led presentation and discussion wrapped up a week-long symposium exploring the conflict and focused on the personal experiences of the students rather than politics, which had been covered earlier in the symposium. Topics such as religious fundamentalism, the attitudes of youth on both sides and hopes for peace were discussed.

Beslan Visambiev '08 spoke about his experiences in Chechnya during the war for independence from Russia. As a boy of 11when the first war began in 1994, he remembers being entranced by the planes that flew overhead, launching missiles on his hometown in the southern part of Chechnya, near the Caspian Sea. Shortly after the raids began, he was taken to a refugee camp in Dagestan, where he lived with his grandparents until it was safe for him to return home.

With the coming of the second war, Visambiev found himself once again in a refugee camp, but at age 16 he was not content to stay. He explained that he preferred the risk of being killed in Chechnya than the risk of being "cowardly" by staying in Dagestan, so he barely escaped by bus back to Chechnya. There he lived with his aunt until she insisted that they return to Dagestan. It was especially unsafe for young people to remain in Chechnya during the war because they were targeted by the bombings.

While living in the city, Visambiev said that the Russian troops bombed the city day and night for six months. One night, he left early from a wedding celebration in which 18 people were killed when the building was bombed. He completed his final year of high school in three months in a kindergarten classroom, a testament to the tolls that the war took on daily life and education.

Sadly, almost all of the young men in Chechnya have grown up surrounded by violence and death and have grown to hate the Russian soldiers. Visambiev stressed the need for peace above all else, pointing out that trying to identify right and wrong sides wouldn't bring the conflict closer to peace, but would only perpetuate hatred and violence.

Julia Koloziejczyk '05 spoke next from the perspective of a young Russian, also speaking of her desire above all else for an end to the violence. She explained that the war in Chechnya had divided the youth of Russia into three categories — Chechen refugees, soldiers returned from war, and apathetic university students. The recent immigrants from Chechnya were accepted for the most part, but maintained a low profile to avoid violence at the hands of angry returned soldiers or revenge-seekers. In one incident, a 15-year-old Chechen boy was killed at a nightclub by a mob of men, but only one of them was ever brought to justice — even more disturbing was the success with which the government covered up the incident.

Koloziejczyk is saddened by the apathy that she perceives in many Russian people regarding the conflict. She worried that an average university student could not say what was currently happening in Chechnya and recalled that people ignore the daily portion of the news broadcast that covers the conflict. She feels strongly that the conflict is between the two governments and not between the people, especially the youth.

The fact that students from both places could come together and discuss their experiences and concerns is a tribute to the power of communication, and it shed light on a topic that many American students don't know much about. The thoughts shared that night were not between people who were antagonistic toward the other for being from a certain place, but who recognized the need for youth to come together in order to work toward peace.

Vani Sathisan '07, coordinator of Dialogues for Peace and chair of the International Students Organization symposium committee, gave a heartfelt thank you to the members of both organizations that helped make the symposium a success.

arts

23
PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST
JACKIE LARYEA TALKS ABOUT HER ECLECTIC STYLE

Aliens, Greeks descend on Johnson

Artist-in-Residence Will Villalongo presents his work

By Lauren Smith
ARTS EDITOR

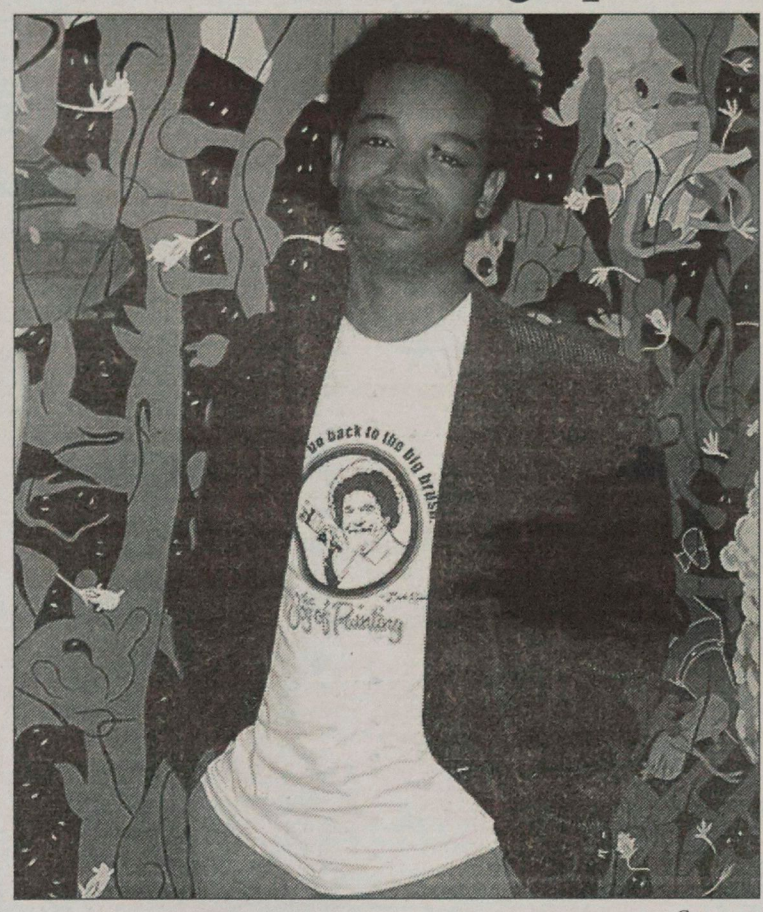
Aliens, decapitations, Cupid and Greek mythology all figure into the work of Christian A. Johnson Artist-in-Residence Will Villalongo in his current Johnson Gallery exhibition of work completed during his residency.

The show consists of five cut velour pieces, one acrylic and cut paper on velvet painting and a video of a performance piece. Villalongo said he is "taking Western mythological characters and exploiting them" by combining traditional images from mythology with alien-like forms and UFOs. "I call it a process of colonization. The aliens allow me to have a sort of image that stands for the act of taking and destroying and colonizing Western art history. [The aliens] come in and rape and pillage and fornicate and make an alien-Greek mythology hybrid," he said.

The largest piece in the exhibit was created by painting figures on paper and collaging them onto a canvas covered with velvet. The flora and plant life in the piece were painted directly onto the surface with acrylics. It depicts a scene similar to the cut velour pieces, involving human figures interacting with alien-like forms.

The pieces, with the exception of the video, are exciting and stimulating. Villalongo, with his grotesque and often mutilated figures, creates a terrifying world that immediately elicits an emotion from the viewer. The emotion produced is not always pleasant, but who says art has to be pretty?

A narrative flows throughout his work and, though there does not seem to be a continuous story linking the pieces as one moves throughout the gallery, it cannot be denied that each piece is enlarging on Villalongo's theme of destruction. He conveys the destruction in an almost comical fashion, with decapiated women's heads laying abandoned on the ground and women in bikinis interacting with the tentacles of an octupus-like alien. The characters are even drawn in a comic book style which adds to the feeling that what we are witnessing is like the chaotic, apolyptic scenes often depicted in sci-fi comics. The fire, the screaming women, the sexually predatory aliens — all are elements of the last scene of a sci-fi cartoon.



Courtesy

Villalongo said of his art, "I call it a process of colonization. The aliens allow me to have a sort of image that stands for the act of taking and destroying and colonizing Western art history. [The aliens] come in, rape and pillage and fornicate and make an alien-Greek mythology hybrid."

The science fiction aspect of Villalongo's work disappears in the video taped performance piece playing around the clock on one wall of the Johnson Gallery. The performance took place at the Studio Museum in Harlem and was the first piece of its kind for Villalongo. The video, entitled "Arsenal," is a 45 minute performance edited down to 12 minutes. Villalongo said, "The basis [in choreographing the performance] is wanting to make the characters and some of the imagery that happen in a painting come alive. It's not about a detailed narrative, but taking the stillness of a painting and shifting it into a type of movement."

The video depicts Cupid preparing for war by cutting notches in knotted, crooked branches, which were brought to him by a woman dressed in a white gown and with a horse's head covering her face. Behind Cupid are several muscians, also wearing animal masks. Villalongo says that the performance music was improvised, but based on John Coltrane's "A Love Supreme."

When viewing the video, one has to wonder, "When are the aliens and the raping and pillaging going to come in?" The thing that makes Villalongo's paintings so great is missing in the performance. Greek characters from well-known tales are indeed in the video, but there is no conflict between them and no alien like, modern day forms. The video is too long and sloppily videotaped. If one had actually witnessed the performance live and in person, it might have been better and perhaps more exciting. The music provided by the video is lovely and perhaps the only aspect of the video worth noting.

Villalongo began to work with these ideas three years ago, though the pieces in the exhibit were created during his residency at Middlebury during this semester. He is currently teaching a course of his own design, "Painting Processes and Concepts" and advising independent theses. Before coming to the College for a residency, Villalongo taught classes at the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York City and will return there in the fall.

Villalongo received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Cooper Union in 1999 and later attended the Tyler School of Art at Temple University where he received his Masters of Fine Arts in painting. The most current exhibition of Villalongo's work can be seen at the PS1 Greater New York Exhibition, PS1 Museum in New York City.

In addition to his current residency in Middlebury's Studio Art program, he has also held a residency at the well-respected Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

The exhibit is on view daily from 9a.m to 5p.m. through April 21.

String Theory

Ari Joseph

After a performance by the Vega String Quartet, the students in Professor of Music Su Lian Tan's composition class joined the quartet on stage. Presiding over the quartet are Andie Gissing '05, Tony Belanger '05, Elizabeth Breuer '05, Tan, Andy Lindblad '05 and Sam Stevenson '05.5.

Spotlight on...Jackie Laryea

The Middlebury Campus: How long have you been creating art?

Jackie Laryea: I've been drawing since I was seven, so it's been more than half of my life. My sister Alice was always drawing and doing art and because I wanted to be around her, I started to draw too. Then, my sophomore year in high school, all of a sudden I realized I was good at art, so I started doing more.

The Campus: What sort of materials do you use?

Jackie: I use pencils and Prismacolors, which are oil-based colored pencils, oil pastels, acrylic and oil sometimes when I'm at home and I have the time. I stretch my own canvases when I can.

The Campus: What do you try to capture with your art?

Jackie: I really like capturing human emotion and experiences. I learned to draw by doing a lot of portraits. I started by taking pictures of my friends. A lot of people say that my art is pretty schizophrenic — it's all over the place. I do have a style, but I don't only do abstract or surrealism or realism. I don't stick to just one style. Artists go through phases, and I guess this is my phase — I'm doing everything I like. I don't think artists should be limited to only one style of art. That won't help develop your own style. Before Dali became a surrealist, he was a realist painter. It's a process. I am drawn to a lot of different things, or a moment that I really want to capture and I won't care if it doesn't fit into what I would normally consider my "style." Art is just an expression of who you are, and artists have a lot of things they want to express.

The Campus: So you work mostly from photographs?

Jackie: It seems like all of my drawings are from photographs, but all my paintings are original — they're all from my head. With my drawings, it's more about the emotion and with my paintings its more about the color and conveying emotion through color.

The Campus: What other sort of forms of artistic expression are you interested in?

Jackie: Well, I'm taking my first acting class this semester. It's a really different form of expression. Acting is different, but when you sit down and read a play, you go through a process. A play is artwork because you're trying to reach a resolution and there are layers and layers. Like when starting a painting, I start one without knowing where you might be going. There are so many layers underneath the finished product. People don't really see the process.

The Campus: Does the place that you're from have a lot to do with your art?

Jackie: A lot of my paintings have to do with who I am and where I'm from. But I think people expect artists, especially black artists, to only do paintings that have to do with being black or being a woman and that's a limiting attitude. There's so much more to me than that. Every single piece of artwork *is* me. It has my emotion. In most of my drawings, someone is suffering. They have a lot to do with things that I've gone through. But I don't think I need to fit this quota of being a "black artist."

The Campus: Any specific artistic inspirations?

Jackie: Um, Dali, Picasso and a modern artist, Ora Tamir. Jazz musician John Coltrane inspires me. Music really inspires me, especially music without words. Sometimes I think words disrupt my train of thought, whereas music without words, like jazz, puts you in this completely different state of mind. Unless it's vocal jazz, which is really cool too, you don't have this voice telling you what's going on. After listening to "After the Rain" by Coltrane, I produced a painting that reflected exactly what was in my head when I was listening to the song.

The Campus: Do you see your art going in a certain direction?

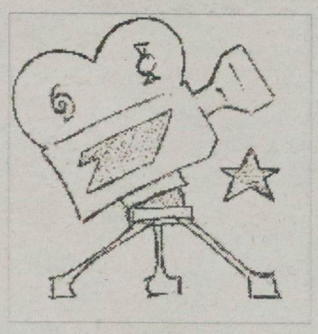
Jackie: I think I'm really going to get into African Art. I just recently started doing art about black people, black women. I'm 19-years-old. I've gone through a lot that makes me proud to be who I am. I have a grip on my identity, and I feel ready. Ever since I've come to Middlebury, all my art has been about being black and about being a woman. I could never have done this type of work before because I didn't yet know who I was. Now I'm discovering this and it's coming out in my art.

— By Jodie Zhang and Lauren Smith

Name: Jackie Laryea
Hometown: Born in Accra, Ghana, currently lives in Sterling, Va.
Year: 2006
Major: International Studies
Favorite DH food: PB and J in Proctor
Favorite animal: Giraffe

THE REEL CRITIC

BY STEPHANIE DOSCH



MOVIE | FEVER PITCH
DIRECTOR | BOBBY AND PETER FARRELLY
STARRING | DREW BARRYMORE, JIMMY FALLON

I'm from Seattle, and I must admit that spending a beautiful afternoon watching the Mariners at Safeco Field is one of my favorite summer activities. I don't really "do" sports, but I follow the Ms somewhat — especially when they're good — and always considered myself a fan. That is, until I came to Middlebury. I think it was during the playoffs my sophomore year, when I was talking to a Bostonian who enthused "Go Sox!" even though they were already out, that I fully understood what it means to be a fan. Since then, I've observed that Red Sox fans are the most diehard of them all, and so it's appropriate that they are the subject of the Farrelly brothers' new movie "Fever Pitch."

The movie is based on British author Nick Hornby's autobiographical work about being a soccer enthusiast (sorry, that's a *football* enthusiast). While Hornby is perhaps best known here in the States for his novels "High Fidelity" and "About a Boy," in Britain he is most revered for "Fever Pitch" (by the way, over there a *pitch* is what we call a soccer field). The book was first made into a movie starring Colin Firth in 1997, which retained the original sport, but has now crossed the Atlantic as a new romantic comedy starring Jimmy Fallon, Drew Barrymore and baseball.

Fallon plays Ben, a middle school math teacher who meets Barrymore's character Lindsey when he takes his students on a field trip to her company. Lindsey at first refuses to go out with Ben, but then decides that maybe dating a different type of guy than her usual successful businessmen might be a good idea. Of course, the two hit it off and things couldn't be better — until, that is, Ben reveals just how die-hard a fan he is. Soon Lindsey finds herself caught between her love for Ben and his love for the Red Sox, and the usual romantic comedy stuff ensues.

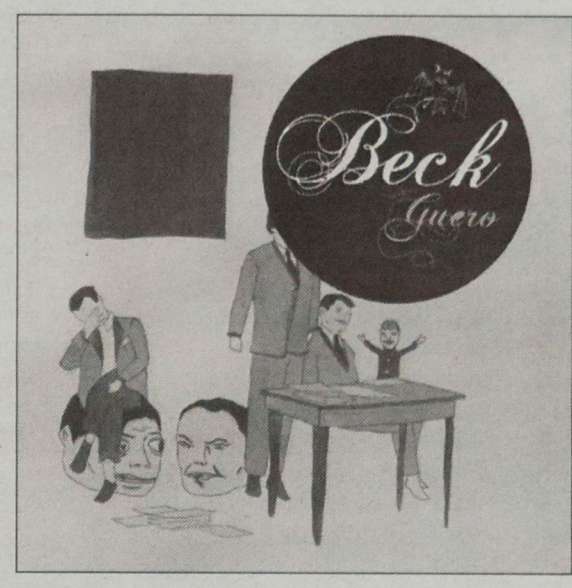
One of the most fun aspects of the film is that all of the game scenes were actually filmed in Fenway Park, during real games, with real fans — no CGI's and no cardboard cutouts. Barrymore said in an interview that the only reason she was allowed to run across the field during the climactic playoff game was because "Fever Pitch" is a Fox movie and Fox was covering the game, but she still had to beg the security guard and she only had one chance to get it right. In any case, the Fenway scenes add an energy and excitement to the movie that would be impossible to recreate.

Out of the romantic comedies I've seen recently this is probably the best and is certainly the most enjoyable for both women *and* men, since it really is one part romantic comedy, one part sports movie. You don't have to be a baseball enthusiast or a Sox fan (go Ms!) to appreciate it — but add two points if you are.

"Fever Pitch" is playing in Middlebury at the Marquis Theater and at Northeast Cinemas in South Burlington, the Majestic 10 in Williston and at the Plaza Movieplex in Rutland.

BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY RICHARD LAWLESS



THE ARTIST | BECK
THE ALBUM | GUERO
RELEASE DATE | MARCH 29, 2005

"GUERO" WILL BE FEATURED ON WRMC'S "ALBUM OF THE WEEK" THIS SUNDAY AT 9 P.M.

Beck is 35. In rock star years, that's like 62. He's slowed down a bit, taking three years rather than one in between albums and he may not be as crazy as he used to be, but after all, he's still Beck, and he's one of the most important musical figures of the past decade. He doesn't really have to try anymore. Which brings us to "Guero," his eighth album. On "Guero," Beck attempts to recapture the magic of his youth, but finds himself coming up short on the sheer imagination and creative spark that drove his earlier albums.

In his youth, Beck was psychotic and unstoppable. His first official album, "Mellow Gold," was a kaleidoscopic stoner affair, full of more crazy sounds and weird juxtapositions than you could shake a bong at. The official follow-up to "Mellow Gold" was that little album known as "Odelay," which made him a superstar. "Odelay" was more mature than "Mellow Gold," but I use the word mature loosely, as here it only means that Beck moved to a bigger studio ("Mellow Gold" was recorded on a $200 4-track machine) and enlisted the sharp production team of the Dust Brothers, who helped make the Beastie Boys' "Paul's Boutique" the brilliant record that it is. Together, Beck and the Dust Brothers created a powerful album full of ridiculous sounds and damn catchy music. Nine years after "Odelay," Beck re-teamed with the Dust Brothers to try to make another one of those crazy albums jam-packed with the weird samples and off-kilter arrangements that made him so famous.

The problem is, when artists get into their 30s, they tend to lose that creative spark that allowed them their period of brilliance during their youth. Case in point — The Beatles. When they broke up, the Fab Four were in their late 20s. Excluding Ringo, each Beatle made one or two excellent albums right after the break-up, then descended into bland-rock limbo. Not convinced? Look at U2. They haven't made a good album since 1991 — the year Bono turned 31. Beck's spark is sadly fading, as evidenced from the music on "Guero," but it's certainly not gone. And even mediocre Beck ain't all that bad.

The album hits the ground running with one of the most charismatic, explosive tracks Beck has written in years, "E-Pro." What the heck an E-Pro is, I have no idea. Beck probably doesn't either. But that's not the point. The point is that Beck announces to the music world that he's back in top form, with an irresistible fuzzed-out bass riff and a clamoring hip-hop groove that leads to the instantly memorable chorus. Unfortunately, Beck is pulling a Dorian Gray — his bombastic posturing reveals an artist attempting to overcompensate for his lack of ideas. It works on "E-Pro," but the album quickly loses steam after those three minutes.

Much of "Guero," sounds like a watered-down "Odelay" mixed with a smite of the exotica sound that fuelled "Mutations," resulting in plodding drum grooves, decent-but-not-great melodies, occasional samples that try too hard to sound weird and Beck lazily rapping about hotdogs and Mexicans. While Beck used to use his lazy stoner characteristics to his advantage, producing genius-slacker pop gems, on "Guero," Beck just sounds tired and bored. But like I said, mediocre Beck still is tolerable, and a watered-down masterpiece like "Odelay" is still decent. "Girl," for example, is a nice, sunny ditty that begins with video game bleeps and evolves into a straightforward slice of acoustic California pop with pretty background vocals that take a cue from Brian Wilson.

The bottom line is that Beck's still got ideas, and he's still got talent, but he's not nearly as remarkable or gripping as he used to be. And it's not because we're used to him so much as that the initial fire that made his earlier albums so powerful and charismatic has been reduced from a massive flame to a pleasant glow. Which isn't bad for a 62-year-old.

Women's lacrosse tops Polar Bears in OT

Sarah Poling Luehrman
Staff Writer

The Bowdoin Polar Bears walked onto their home field no doubt still smarting from last year's 7-9 loss against Middlebury in the NESCAC semifinal. During that game almost a year ago, the Panthers pulled ahead midway through the first half and never let Bowdoin catch all the way up, but they never shook them, either. This time, the Polar Bears were determined to close that margin, and they walked onto the field knowing that they were going to make the Panthers fight for this game.

The good news for Bowdoin was that they did indeed close that margin — in fact, they forced Middlebury into double overtime before the Panthers emerged victorious, 12-11, thanks to a beautiful free-position goal from Schuyler Winstead '06. The Polar Bears gave the Panthers one of their toughest games of the season and certainly showed them their closest margin of victory thus far. "It's games like these," said Captain Johanna Rosenfield '05, "that test us in truly adverse situations, and although an easier win is a bit less of a stress-inducer, the game is most definitely character building."

Watching the scoreboard during the first half of the game, onlookers familiar with the Panthers might have seen another Bates game or another Tufts game: early lead, easy win. The players on the field, however, experienced something a little different. Bowdoin attacker Kate Donoghue scored on Rosenfield three minutes in, but Kim Walker '07 wasted no time in taking possession and scoring unassisted on Bowdoin goalkeeper Kendall Cox to tie the score at 1-1. In the next two minutes of the game, both Channing Weymouth '06 and Claire Edelen '07 scored on Cox, who would earn six consecutive Middlebury goals before the end of the half. Only after Elizabeth Renehan '06 rifled one past her and Walker and Weymouth each scored a second time did Bowdoin manage one more goal two seconds before the whistle blew to signal the end of the half. The score stood 6-2; elsewhere, the team might have considered the game safely in their hands, but this was Bowdoin. "We did not secure the scoring margin we would have liked," says Rosenfield. The team knew that four goals was a slim lead at best in this matchup, and they knew that they would have to get out there and defend it.

Bowdoin came back and gave Middlebury the fight that they knew they had coming. "They came back hungry for goals," Rosenfield said, and frequently scored "off beautiful fast breaks, plays that are harder for us to stop and we frequently found ourselves in man down situations." For the first 10 minutes or so of the half, Middlebury matched them goal for goal. Walker scored her third goal of the game, answered by a Bowdoin goal mere moments later. Edelen scored once more before the Polar Bears scored three times consecutively. As the clock ticked closer to the end of the game, rarely did three minutes go by without at least one goal. It was a game for the gritty, and Bowdoin was slowly climbing back up to even out with Middlebury. With ten minutes left in the half, after a goal from Michele Bergofsky, a three goal streak from Bowdoin evened the score to 9-9. Winstead and Edelen sank a pair of goals to bring the score to 11-9, and the Polar Bears were left with less than four minutes to pull ahead of the Panthers. They used every second, scoring their 10th goal only a minute later and placing that crucial 11th tying goal in Rosenfield's top left corner with only three seconds left on the clock as the field held its breath.

The first overtime passed, and neither side scored. Middlebury's first double overtime commenced and Winstead faked out the Bowdoin goalkeeper to score her winning goal 45 seconds in. The Panthers had finally gotten the lead back, and the defense did the rest. The game ended after 66 minutes of tight, hard playing and left the Polar Bears denied yet again.

The Panthers' defense had a tough job throughout the game against Bowdoin's strong attackers, but they did it well. Captain Caitlin McCormick '05 in particular "played a smart, heads up game and really set the tone for our team with her composure and poise," said Head Coach Missy Foote. McCormick led the team with three ground balls and six caused turnovers, contributing essential leadership to the defensive squad. Rosenfield made10 saves for Middlebury, playing one of her best games thus far this season. The offense deserves as much recognition; a team with six different players consistently scoring, as was the case in this game, "makes us so hard to defend," says Foote.

The Panthers, now 8-1 for the season and undefeated in the league, may have another fight ahead of them this weekend on Kohn Field when the Lord Jeffs come to town. Next week, Middlebury will face Williams, 7-3 for the season and 2-3 in NESCAC, and then Trinity, 8-4 for the season and 2-4 in NESCAC. "Our offensive plays, our man to man defense, our stall, our zone defense are all getting better and better," says Foote. "We hope to continue to improve."

Sixiao Huo

The Middlebury women's lacrosse team continues in imperious form, winning seven in a row and eight out of nine.

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Panthers define "clutch" in overtime victory

Tom McCann
Sports Editor

In looking for an adjective to describe the Bowdoin and Middlebury men's lacrosse teams, one might choose "evenly-matched." Last year, when Middlebury traveled up to Maine, the Polar Bears got the better of the Panthers in overtime, recording a hard-fought 11-10 victory.

Last weekend marked the first meeting between the teams since that game, and once again overtime was necessary to decide the outcome. Fortunately for the Panthers, a decisive goal from co-captain Dave Leach '05 maintained a winning streak, now standing at six games.

This game marked the first time that the Panthers were able to play at Alumni Stadium since the NCAA semifinal last year and it looked like it would be a battle right from the start. Travis Meyer '06 commented, "We knew it would be a battle. We had the overtime game in our minds from last year where it sort of slipped away from us, so we knew it would be scrappy."

In truth, it seemed like Bowdoin settled quickest, scoring the opening goal. The Panthers fought back, however, and took a 2-1 lead at one point, before being pegged back by the Polar Bears who scored two more of their own.

Trailing 2-3 after the first quarter, Middlebury needed to respond in the second, and did so with just over six minutes remaining on the clock. A goal from Jamie Duke '05 tied the score at 3-3 and that would be the only goal of the quarter. Heading into the halftime break there had been just six goals and already three lead changes. A close second half was in the cards.

Bowdoin got on the board first in the second half, only for Aaron Herter '06 to bring Middlebury back level once again, courtesy of the crossbar. The tie lasted just 14 seconds, however, as Bowdoin's Connor Fitzgerald put the Panthers behind again, on his way to a staggering six goals and three assists in the game.

The Polar Bears then scored another, to take a 6-4 lead, the first two-goal lead of the afternoon. However, the Panthers responded to this challenge, scoring three consecutive goals, taking a 7-6 lead with time running out in a pulsating third quarter. Still, the action was not complete as Fitzgerald had time to notch another, tying the game at 7-7 with just 10 seconds on the clock.

Heading into the final quarter, the teams had never been more than two goals apart and the lead had exchanged hands four times. Once again, the Panthers were caught out by the fast-starting Polar Bears who tallied two goals, opening up a 9-7 advantage.

Once again though, the Panthers responded to the Bowdoin challenge, notching three goals courtesy of juniors Jonathan Sisto, Nick Bastis and Travis Meyer, who scored the go-ahead goal with 5:43 on the clock. The drama was far from over, however, as the Polar Bears were given a two-man advantage and more than two minutes on the clock. With just over one minute of regulation remaining, Fitzgerald scored his sixth goal of the game, tying the scores at 10 and forcing another game between Middlebury and Bowdoin into an extra stanza.

With nerves jangling, time continued to roll off the clock as the game remained deadlocked. That was until Leach's intervention with 1:47 left in overtime. Of the decisive goal, Meyer said, "All the credit goes to Dave for that one. He picked the ball up, went past a guy and stuck his shot. It was a great ending, made by a great play from a great player." Middlebury trailed on a number of occasions, but always managed to find a way back into the game when they needed to.

Spreading the goals around, Herter, Duke and Meyer all tallied a brace, while Cabrera was surprisingly kept off the score sheet, instead notching three assists on the day. Goalkeeper Alex Palmisano '07 made 10 saves between the pipes, five more than Kevin Mullins, his Bowdoin counterpart.

Friday, April 23 will mark the start of a busy schedule for the Panthers, with four games in a week. First the men have to travel to play Trinity, before playing Colby at Trinity two days later. The Panthers will then head back to Middlebury in order to host Williams on Wednesday evening before completing their NESCAC schedule with a game against Bates. Meyer commented, "These are the last four games of NESCAC play and we'll continue to play strong and maybe lock up the number one seed in the tournament."

Sixiao Huo

The men's lacrosse team extended its win streak to six games last week, knocking off rivals Bowdoin in overtime.

Baseball sweeps Hamilton; cruises to 11-8

Sixiao Huo

The Panthers shook off a heavy defeat by Mass. College to sweep NESCAC rival Hamilton, improving its record to 11-8 and continuing its playoff push.

James Edward Kerrigan
Staff Writer

The Panther's suffered their fourth straight loss on Wednesday against Massachusetts College, but rebounded with a three game sweep of divisional opponent Hamilton.

Mass. College took a commanding 6-0 lead after the first inning and never looked back. Mass. College took advantage of Middlebury's mistakes; they scored all six runs without collecting an extra base hit. Mass. College hit into a double play to stop the bleeding. John Lanahan '08 and Andrew Pavoni '06 both homered for the Panthers, but these two swings were overshadowed by Middlebury's seven errors in the field. After this defensive let down, the team fell below .500 for the season at 7-8.

Four straight losses in the heart of the season may have broken most teams, but once again the Panthers showed their resiliency and character by taking all three home games against NESCAC opponent Hamilton. Previous losses certainly added pressure to perform well against Hamilton.

Senior outfielder Dev Talvadkar who thrived under this pressure, collecting five RBIs, noted, "Of course we felt added pressure to win after last week because anytime your league schedule consists of 12 games and you lose three in a row there is added pressure to win." But Head Coach Bob Smith preaches approaching one game at a time. "We also played to put the pressure on Hamilton and not ourselves," he said. Expectations and pressures were high, but the men came through in impressive fashion.

Game one on Friday went back and forth in the early innings. Hamilton scored six times in the top of the fourth inning to open up the game. Middlebury fought back though. The squad managed two runs in the bottom half of the fourth inning to pull within three runs at 7-4.

First-year Jack Britton came on and pitched a remarkable 5.2 innings in relief. He took care of holding Hamilton. The bats also did their part as the attack put up five in the seventh and two more in the eighth. The men at the top of the lineup heated up as batters one through four each had multiple hit games. David Riester '05 led the way with four hits and three runs scored. But Dom DiDomenico '06 and Pavoni both had multi hit games; the two combined for three crucial runs.

Smith recognized some difference between the series against Amherst and this past weekend. "Pitching and defense for Hamilton was not as good [as Amherst]. We were efficient and hit well."

These differences were most visible on Saturday, especially during the first game. Middlebury picked up where it left off on Friday and jumped out to an 18-0 lead after just four innings. Between the end of Friday's game and the beginning of Saturday's game, the Panther offense scored two or more runs for six straight innings; they averaged 4.16 runs per inning over this stretch.

The pitching was equally strong; the staff gave up only three runs over two games. Riester earned the win in game one and lowered his season ERA to 1.93. Senior classmate Russ Budnick struck out eight and picked up the win in game two. Hamilton did, however, manage to beat Middlebury in total errors 9-2. These proved costly for Hamilton. Talvadkar noted the importance of errors, saying, "This weekend we made fewer mistakes and came through in the clutch." When it was all said and done, Middlebury won game one 19-1 and game two 10-2.

Next weekend, the Panthers square off for their final divisional series against Wesleyan. They stand at 5-4, one game behind of Williams in the NESCAC west region. But the important part is that Middlebury takes care of its own business.

"We have to show up to play like we did [last] Friday and Saturday. If we win all three we are set. If we do not we may have to rely on fate, so we can control our destiny," Coach Smith commented.

Talvadkar affirmed that, "If we play our game and limit mistakes we expect to take the series from Weslyean and hopefully if all goes as planned make the playoffs." Middlebury open on Friday at 4:00 p.m. and then come back at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday for a doubleheader.

Column as I see 'em

BY JEFF PATTERSON

Last week, Gary Sheffield over threw his cut-off man, but, man, his face was almost cut-off in the process. Acting like a real idiot, a Red Sox fan took a swipe at the New York right-fielder; while another man, who was sitting several seats closer to the visitor's bullpen, intentionally dumped his $4 beer on the former Brewer. Sheffield was in the process of fielding Jason Varitek's eighth inning line-drive and getting the ball back into the infield. This baseball rolled around in the corner long enough for the catcher, once he had safely reached third base, to catch his breath. Fittingly, V-Tek would also end-up catching the final out, a foul-pop that concluded a sweet-smelling 8-5 victory.

Although the idiot's action was stupid: if you're going to pick a fight with a New York Yankee player, try 5'9" veteran Rey Sanchez; it was even sillier to even think about going for the baseball. Many would argue that the arrested swiper was focused on Sheffield's eyeball instead of the baseball, but fans in front of him took their stabs at trying to grab it. Fenway's right field corner is challenging. Last year, Juan Gonzalez misplayed the bounce and Pokey Reese, did the Hokey-Pokey on his way to an inside the park HR. Let the opposing players make mistakes out there. Don't help them out.

If any of the baseball's stitches had been touched, Varitek would have been held to a ground-rule double and David Ortiz would not have been allowed to score Boston's eighth run. Gary Sheffield was due to lead off the top of the ninth; Hideki Matsui and A-Rod were to follow. Insurance runs were about as valuable as Allstate stock. The fan's actions obviously enraged Batspeedman, who proceeded to cook a double during his ninth inning at bat.

Early this year, during a Pistons-Pacers game, Ron Artest, Stephen Jackson, Jermaine O'Neal and Ben Wallace were part of a brawl on the court as well as in the stands. Nine spectators had to be treated for injuries. In the baseball game it looked like Sheffield wanted to teach the fan a lesson, but a security guard came to the fan's rescue and the outraged outfielder backed off.

If fan-fighting keeps up, EA sports is going to have to include similar events in its video games in order to simulate the real thing.

The blasphemous bleacher blemishes that have transpired both at the Palace of Auburn Hills and at the Palace of bench coach Brad Mills, need to be bleached out. Otherwise, sluggers will be swinging for the electric fences: boundaries that would punish those who made any attempt to cross with a pain worse than that coming from a first-in-three-months floss. Your gums would bleed. But only a true Red Sox fan, one that would have made sure not to touch Varitek's triple, so Big Papi could score the insurance run, would bleed red.

Softball continues charge to the top

Hot bats and solid pitching lead Panther attack in NESCAC play

Sixiao Huo

Middlebury softball continues to move through the gears, recording a sixth straight victory last Tuesday. The women are now 13-7 in the regular season.

Kellan Florio
Staff Writer

One week after being no-hit by a dominant Williams pitching staff, the Panther bats awoke from their slumber, exploding for 43 runs over six games this week, sweeping NESCAC foes Wesleyan and Hamilton and splitting a pair with Castleton State to improve their record to 11-7 (5-1 in NESCAC). Sophomore pitcher Jen Williams (4-4) and senior co-captain Lauren Guza led the women throughout the week with Williams going 4-0 on the mound and Guza terrorizing opposing batters at the plate.

With senior co-captain and star pitcher Megan McCarthy sidelined with tendonitis in her forearm, the Panthers handed the ball over to Williams, despite beginning the week win-less in four starts this season. Williams would not disappoint as she started the week with a complete game five inning one-hit effort in a 10-1 rout of Castleton on Thursday, earning her first win of the season. Maura Casey '07 provided most of the Panthers' offense as she went 3 for 3 with two doubles and five RBI's. Colleen Sullivan '07 also enjoyed a big day at the plate going 2 for 3 with two doubles and a pair of RBI's.

First-year Brittany Burke (2-2) took the mound for the second leg of the doubleheader at Castleton, which turned out to be an epic 10-inning battle with each side exchanging blows in the extra frames. With the score tied at three heading into the top of the eighth, the Panthers exploded for four runs capped by a Sullivan two-run home run and appeared to have the game wrapped up. However, the scrappy Castleton side managed to answer back with four runs in the bottom of the eighth to tie the score at 17. Middlebury regained the lead in the top of the ninth on a Victoria Glowacky '06 RBI single, but could not hold on once again in the bottom half as Castleton knotted the score at eight on an unearned run. After the Panthers stranded a runner at third in the top of the 10th, Castleton capitalized on the opportunity and quickly scored in the bottom half to take the victory 9-8. In the end, the Panthers' six errors would cost them four unearned runs despite some solid pitching from Burke.

Leaving their defensive woes behind, the Panthers went on to commit only one error over their next four games while surrendering no unearned runs. Williams took the mound in the first half of the doubleheader at Hamilton and was near perfect as she tossed a complete game (five innings) one-hit shutout, while walking none and striking out four. The Panthers got out to an early lead with five runs in the top of the second and never looked back. They would go on to add three more in the fourth for a final of 8-0. Guza, Lauren Battaglia '06 and Katelyn Cannella '08 provided the offense as they combined to go 5 for 9 with four RBI's, four runs and four stolen bases.

The onslaught continued in the nightcap, with the Panthers running up a score of 9-1 in another mercy-rule curtailed outing. Middlebury wasted no time getting on the board as they opened the match with four runs in the top of the first inning on four base hits and some sloppy Hamilton fielding. After being held scoreless over the next four innings, the Panthers would tag Hamilton's Eaton for five more runs in the top of the sixth capped by Guza's 2-RBI double. Burke worked around seven hits to pick up her second victory of the season, pitching all six innings while surrendering just one run. Guza, Glowacky, Cannella and Christine Grimaldi '08 each collected a pair of hits to lead Middlebury at the plate.

"We were coming off a scrappy game against Castleton and we knew that we'd have to make a major turn around for these NESCAC games," noted McCarthy. "Hamilton has traditionally been a good team but we really came out with the bats and run-ruled them both games."

"We all finally broke out of our hitting slumps and really hit the ball all throughout our line up," acknowledged Head Coach Angie Totaro. "Jen Williams pitched an excellent first game holding them to one hit and Brittany Burke also pitched great in game two holding them scoreless until the sixth inning."

Williams continued to dominate opposing batters in the Panthers' doubleheader at Wesleyan on Sunday where she pitched two complete games, earning victories in both outings. In game one, Williams fired a seven-inning three-hit shutout while walking only one and striking out four. The top half of the Panther line-up did all the damage, with Guza going 3 for 3 with a run and an RBI from the leadoff spot, while Battaglia added a crucial 2-RBI double in the top of the fifth to double their lead to 4-0. Sullivan then singled in Battaglia to close out the scoring at 5-0.

Gunning for her third win in two days, Williams used both her arm and her bat to get the job done in the second leg of the doubleheader, as the Panthers survived a late Wesleyan rally to win their fourth straight, 3-2. Williams got Middlebury on the board first, helping her own cause with a 2-RBI single to right in the top of the second inning. Kathryn Hurd '06 would add to Middlebury's lead an inning later as her suicide squeeze scored Grimaldi, bringing the score to 3-0. Wesleyan would fight back, however, as they plated two runs in the bottom of the sixth with two outs to narrow the gap to one run. That would be all the scoring the Cardinals could muster, however, as Williams settled down to retire the next four batters she faced to close out the game.

"Since returning from spring training we have really tried to focus on staying up and putting as much effort into the second game as we do the first, and after losing the second game to Castleton last Thursday we became even more determined to come home this weekend with four wins," mentioned Williams in reference to the team's 1-6 record in the second game of doubleheaders prior to this weekend. "Everyone was really focused and having fun and playing like we're capable of, and there's nothing better than pitching for a team like that."

"Sweeping Hamilton and Wesleyan this weekend was a very positive step for our team, because the wins put us in a good position for the NESCAC playoffs, but also because beating them so decisively showed us that we're capable of playing at a higher level than we'd been at earlier in the season," commented Guza, whose stellar week at the plate going 14 for 21 and raising her average from .263 to .407 earned her NESCAC player of the week honors for the first time in her career. "Our defense was as solid as I've ever seen it, and our bats really came alive this weekend," she said.

"We're improving every day, and we're playing with so much more intensity, composure and confidence now," continued Guza. "I think this past week will really provide us with the momentum we need heading into the match up with Amherst that will decide our final standings in the conference."

McCarthy added, "If we keep playing like we did this weekend, there's no question we'll be taking home the NESCAC championship."

The Amherst doubleheader will be played at Middlebury with the first game scheduled for 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Track running smoothly

Panthers record solid marks in Albany Classic

Zamir Ahmed
Sports Editor

On Saturday, April 16, the Middlebury track and field team donned their spikes and game-faces for a trip to New York and the chance to compete in the Albany Spring Classic. There the Panthers took on nine other teams from the region, including Division I colleges Syracuse University and host University of Albany. The meet was a great experience for the Panthers as both the men's and women's teams took third behind Albany and Syracuse, respectively. The Panthers had a number of impressive performances turned in by both the women and the men, including a historic one by Khristoph Becker '06 in the decathlon.

Becker took the gold in the decathlon with a new Middlebury College-record of 6645 points. Becker's total was also good enough to qualify him for NCAAs on May 26-28. Becker, last year's New England Champion in the event, showed his versatility and athleticism by taking first in six out of the 10 events that make up the decathlon.

The men's team was also led by three other first place finishes on the day. Throwers Steve Atkinson '06 and Bobby Marcoux '07 had strong performances for the Panthers, with Atkinson taking first in the javelin with a NCAA-qualifying throw of 60.30m and Marcoux winning the discus with a mark of 40.75m. Kevin Bright '06 also grabbed a first place finish and improved on his NCAA time by stopping the clock in the 400m hurdles in a time of 53.15 seconds.

On the women's side, the Panthers were led by a pair of first place finishes. Sarah Berkowitz '05 took home the gold in the pole vault, clearing a height of 3.05m, ahead of teammate Sarah Wilson '08 who came in fourth. Shalini Vimal '07 also added a first for the Panthers with a win in the 5000m. A couple of second place finishes in the throwing events also highlighted the team's performance at the meet. Rachel Lincoln '08 took the silver in the javelin with a toss of 31.45m while Renee Courchesne '05 took second in the discus with a distance of 38.26m.

Co-Captain Liam Aiello '05 was pleased with the team's performance in the Panthers' second-to-last regular season meet. "At this point in the season, times and individual performances are really good," said Aiello. "We were competing against club teams and smaller schools in the area on Saturday but we also managed to hang in there with two good Division I programs, Albany and Syracuse."

The Panthers will next be in action at Dartmouth Invitational on April 24. The meet will be the last chance for team members to qualify for NESCACs, which will be held on April 30 at Colby College. "Our goal for the meet next week is to get as many people as possible to qualify for NESCACs," said Co-Captain Melissa Thacker '05. "We want to get three people [the NESCAC maximum] to qualify in each event. We want to get as many people to do their best as possible and for those not going to NESCACs we want them to have a great last meet."

Crew heads to NE regatta

Courtesy

Middlebury's women's first varsity four travelled to Saratoga, and rowed well finishing a close third in their race.

Stephanie Pritchard
Staff Writer

The warm weather enjoyed by Midd-kids everywhere was especially appreciated by the Middlebury rowers who had their first water practices since spring break. After a week of intensive workouts before sunrise, Middlebury crew traveled to Saratoga, N.Y. to compete against the University of Vermont (UVM), Skidmore College and William Smith College.

The team knew they would find fierce competition at this regatta especially from William Smith who, going in to this weekend, was rated as the number 10 NCAA Division III women's program in the country. "This regatta really helped to sort out collegiate team rankings in a very short spring season," said Coach Alex Machi. "Middlebury's women stepped on to the national stage with a strong performance against a squad held in high esteem by crew coaches throughout the United States."

The women's team, following up their success at Massachusetts Maritime Academy and Amherst College, had a win in the second varsity fours event and placed a close third in both the first four, second four and eights events. Middlebury's second women's varsity four — coxswain Camden Burton '06.5, Anna Eisenstein '07, Emily Dawson '08.5, Molly Vaughn '06 and Rebecca Hollewijn '07 — is currently undefeated.

The men's varsity team had their first win of the season in the fours race against Skidmore and UVM. The boat — coxswain Brooke Adams '07, Doug Penrose '06, Dave Wood '07.5, Matt Daylor '06 and Matt Griswold '07.5 — did a phenomenal job in the 2000m sprint against Skidmore and UVM, both traditionally strong boats, placing first by several boat lengths against a slight headwind. Adams reported that it was an overall great row. "We had a clean race-start in which we pulled away from the competition and managed to hold them off, maintaining a large gap, for the entire race," she commented. "This was definitely our best row of the season so far, and after positive reinforcement from a race like yesterday's, we hope to exceed our expectations again at New England fours where we will see rivals, Bowdoin and Amherst."

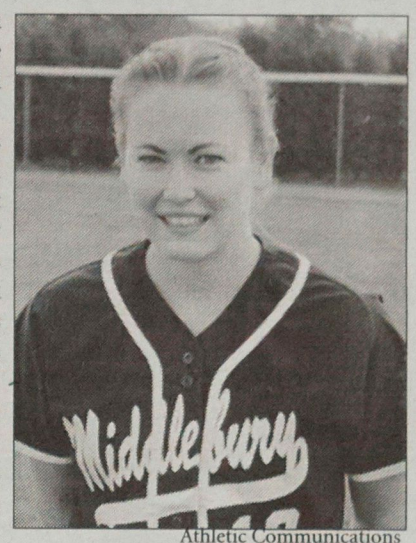
Some have suggested that a rowing program at a school situated so far north cannot be successful, but Middlebury's record tells another story. "For us to be within a length of a boat ranked number 10 in the country with only four days of on-the-water training since returning from our eight day Florida training trip is a testament to what this group of women is capable of," said Machi. "And there's no telling what both these programs could accomplish if they had rowing tanks to train with during the early spring season weeks - like Williams, Trinity and other NESCAC programs."

The team returns to Massachusetts Maritime Academy next weekend to compete at the New England Fours regatta against other small, club rowing teams including Bowdoin, Amherst, Roger Williams and Franklin Pierce. The upcoming weeks look to be full of hard practices and tough competition but the team is ready to put up a fight.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY RYAN REESE, SPORTS EDITOR

Guza '05 knocks out NESCAC



Athletic Communications

Senior Lauren Guza pounded her way through the past week and her efforts did not go unnoticed. While putting up otherworldly numbers on the diamond, the senior led the Panthers through the last seven days and notched four important conference wins and a 5-1 record for the week as the native Californian was recognized as the NESCAC's Player of the Week. Guza's .667 batting average summarizes this impressive six game winning stretch. Within this run, Guza hit .643, scored five runs, knocked in five more and simply dominated this weekend's conference road sweep. The senior will lead the Panthers into action against the Bates Bearcats this Tuesday before they head into battle against rival Amherst this upcoming weekend. Guza helped lead the team through an intense transition that has seen the Panthers accomplish some amazing things. The team notched the best record in school history last year and this year's squad seems poised to live up to lofty expectations. With NESCAC glory on the horizon, Guza will play an important role in the remainder of Middlebury's season.

Women's golf kicks off season

The Ralph Mhyre Golf Course opened up this past weekend and golfers of all abilities turned out to dust off the firesticks and attempt to correct the chronic slice. The Middlebury women's golf squad, who started off their spring campaign this past weekend, would make quick work of the amateur duffers in no time flat. The Panthers traveled to Wellesley in order to participate in the six-team invitational. Middlebury started the year off fairly well with a finish in the middle of the pack. The women ended the weekend occupying the third position. Heather Gallagher '07 carded in the team's best overall score with a two-day total of 160. Sophomore Kerry Ortega turned in a 180 for the team's second best finish with Karen Levin '08 right on her heels with a 182. First-year Tory MacNeill, fresh off Middlebury's national championship women's ice hockey team, contributed to the effort with a 185, and Allison Ortega '07 rounded out the team with a solid 190. The women's squad will be in action again this upcoming weekend and the Jack Leaman Championship at Amherst before concluding the season at home on April 30.

Tennis Golf finds its niche

Ryan Reese

The creative minds of Middlebury's sports enthusiasts have concocted yet another amazing activity that can serve as a crosstraining tool for any kind of athlete or a truly competitive endeavor that requires complete and utter dedication. The sport combines finesse and precision with power and strength in order to synthesize a beautiful game that already has a devoted following and will soon catch on with many others. The game: Tennis Golf. While using tennis rackets and balls, a hole is specified and then completed to the exact rules of championship golf. With extreme distances involved, holes can become quite lengthy and quite innovative. One group of players has a grueling fifth hole that tees off from the recycling center, winds along Bicentennial Road, enters John McCardell Bicentennial Hall, catches the elevators to the third floor and ends at the building's main entrance. The game is highly competitive and exciting. Truly gifted players are able to chip in from incredible distances while crushing drives halfway across campus. The sports editors of *The Campus* highly recommend the game to all, so you better grab your Prince or your Head and start wailing.

MEN'S LACROSSE | LAX SQUEEZES OUT ANOTHER CLOSE OVERTIME WIN AGAINST BOWDOIN | 25

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL | PANTHERS HIT THEIR STRIDE ON FOUR GAME WIN STREAK | 26

GAMES TO WATCH

SOFTBALL
VS. AMHERST
APR. 23 | 1 & 3 P.M.

MEN'S BASEBALL
VS. WESLEYAN
APR. 23 | 12 & 2:30 P.M.

campus sports
THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2005

Panthers emerge from NESCAC undefeated

Eri Nosaka
Staff Writer

This past week the men's tennis team triumphed over three notable teams. The Panthers started off the week against Union College and crushed them with a score of 7-0. Then on April 16 Middlebury played Amherst College. Amherst, ranked 20th in the nation, proved to be a tough competitor giving some of the players not as easy of a match as expected. Ari Beilin '06 dropped his first set 4-6, but came back with 6-0 and 6-1 wins in his second and third sets. Nate Edmunds '06 also played to three sets and won 6-2, 2-6, 11-9 (10-point tiebreaker). In the end, the Panthers defeated the Jeffs with a score of 6-1.

However, the story of the week was the home game against Trinity College. Middlebury students, parents and faculty gathered around the tennis courts on a sunny Sunday to witness the seniors' last home NESCAC game of their college careers. And in typical Middlebury tennis fashion, the team easily dominated over Trinity College with a score of 6-1. There were impressive wins from Alex Meditz '05 (6-1, 6-2) and Justin Ingoglia '05 (6-1, 6-3). Other wins came from Beilin, Edmunds, George Mayer '07, Beilin/Alex Scott '07 and Edmunds/Brian Waldron '06.

"I thought Justin Ingoglia and Alex Meditz played exceptionally well in our match on Sunday against Trinity. It was great to see them both win easily in their last big regular season home match of their college careers. I thought the team competed very well this weekend. We definitely established our dominance over some very strong teams in the NESCAC," said co-captain Beilin about the team's success this week.

Sixiao Huo

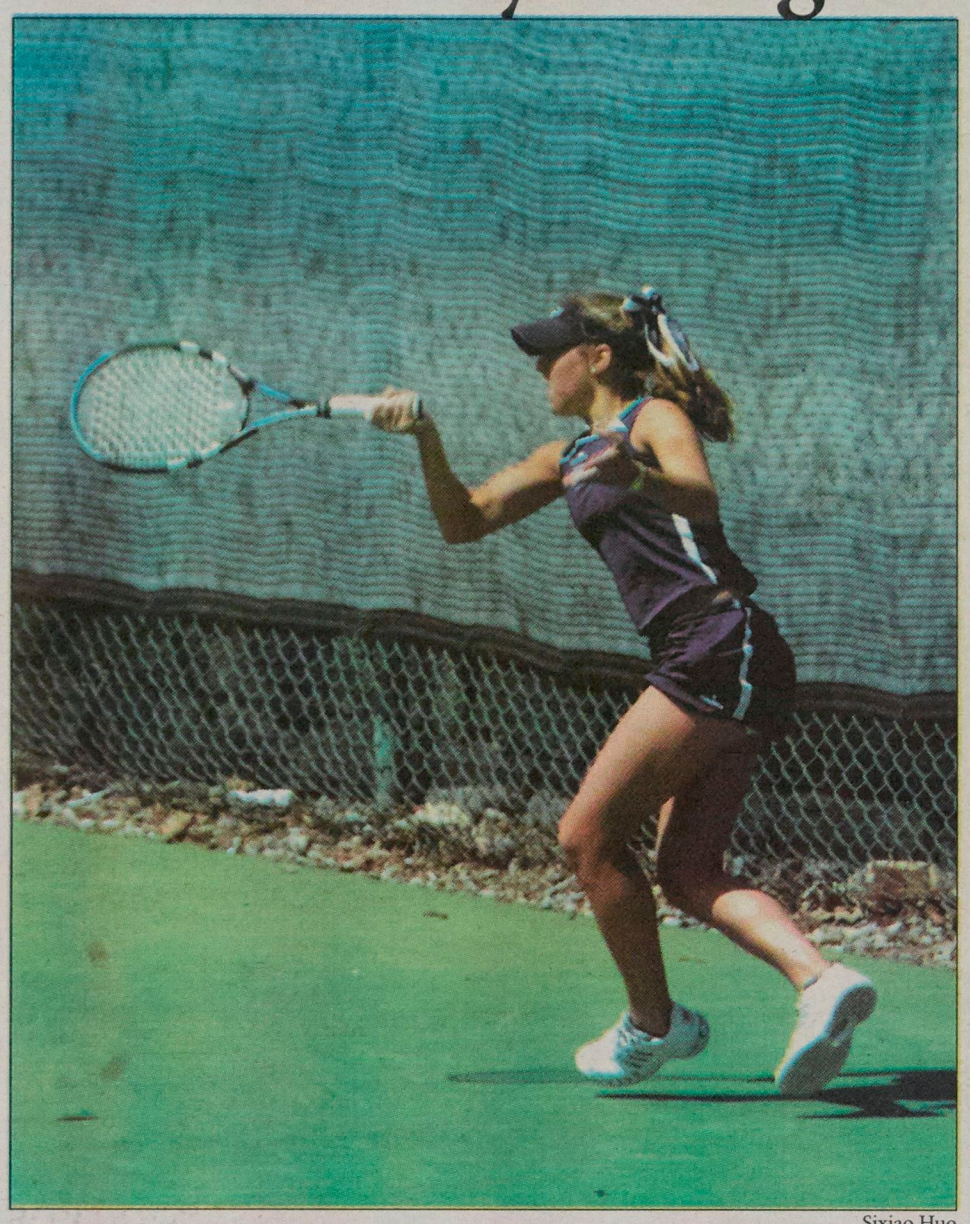
Brian Waldron '06 slams a forehand during his three-set loss versus Trinity, but the top-ranked Panthers prevailed against the Bantams 6-1.

From Friday, April 22 until Sunday, April 24, the Panthers will be competing in the NESCAC Championship tournament vying for another championship title. Currently they are ranked number one and are the favorites to win the championship. The Middlebury Panthers are entering the NESCAC Championships undefeated for the third consecutive year. However, despite the optimistic predictions, the team continues to maintain their concentration during practices and during games.

"This week, the team is going to focus continually on making improvements. It is this part of the season that will make or break our postseason and we need to work hard. NESCACs are always a lot of fun. There is a lot of tennis and everyone is pushed hard. I like our chances, but the competition is always fierce," said co- captain Meditz.

On Wednesday, April 20 the team will play Skidmore College at the Proctor Courts. It will be the Panthers' last home game of the season and their last regular season test before the start of the NESCAC Championships.

Middlebury swings through rival Williams



Sixiao Huo

Sophomore Amy Roche cruised through her singles match, winning 6-2, 6-0 before partnering Amanda Berck '08 in a doubles match. The duo outlasted their opponents 9-7 on the day.

Heather Wright
Staff Writer

It took a solid 8-1 win over Williams for the Middlebury College women's tennis team to regain their winning ways. They faced the Ephs on Saturday, April 16 on their own Proctor courts. Middlebury came out ready to win against the Ephs and succeeded in avenging their loss the previous week to Amherst. The Panthers improved their record to 11- 2 as they defeated sixth-ranked Williams.

"The key to the match was getting off to a good start. We fought through three close doubles matches but in the end we won them all. The early wins set the tone for the rest of the match," said Emily Holick '07.

Middlebury's number one doubles team, Claire Smyser '07 and Jackie Ross '07, defeated Williams relatively easily by a score of 8-4. However, the Panthers' two and three doubles matches were closer. Amanda Berck '08 and Amy Roche '07, at number two doubles, won 9-7 while Holick and co-captain Maren Messing '06 defeated the Ephs 8- 6 at number three doubles.

The Panthers dominated in their singles matches against a well-coached Williams team, going 6-1 on the day. According to Holick, "The Ephs battled hard, but we were the better team that day." Roche, at number one singles, and Holick, playing number five, both defeated their opponents easily, winning 6- 2, 6- 0. Berck and Smyser handed their opponents losses at three and four singles, respectively. First-year Amy Berkman gave the first set to her opponent, 3-6, but quickly regained her poise and went 6-1 in the next two sets and cemented her victory. Ross, playing number two singles, lost in a close match.

Though the Panthers have a young team, with first-year and sophomores making up the majority of the squad, Middlebury has continued to prove that they can beat teams with more experienced players. In Saturday's match versus Williams, the singles ladder was made up of four sophomores — Roche, Ross, Smyser and Holick. Berck and Berkman, the team's two first-years, played the remaining two singles positions. These two strong classes will provide the Panthers with much success in the coming seasons.

The Middlebury women plan to "carry the momentum of this win into our Bowdoin match next weekend," said Holick. They are now ranked number two in Division III, with only the Lord Jeffs of Amherst ranking ahead of them. With their season winding down, the Panthers are gearing up for the NESCAC Championships. Middlebury will be hosting this springs NESCAC Championships, which begins on Friday, April 29. With only one match left in their season, the Panthers are excited at the prospect of defending the New England Intercollegiate Women's Tennis Tournament title that they took this fall.

Women's Tennis

Saturday, April 16

Middlebury	8
Williams	1

The Panthers take on the sixth-ranked Polar Bears at their own Proctor courts on Saturday, April 23 at 11:00 a.m. The Bowdoin squad is always tough and will surely travel south with a will to win and the ability to do so. The Panthers will have their hands full, but the squad of the women are equipped to handle such opposition as they look to continue this positive momentum throughout the remainder of this year's spring campaign.